



Hiro Mashima

FAIRY TAIL

47



HIRO MASHIMA



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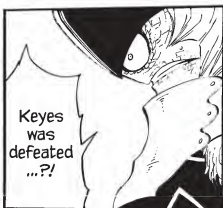
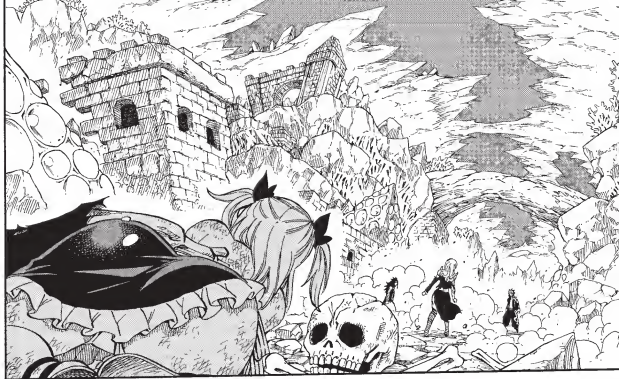
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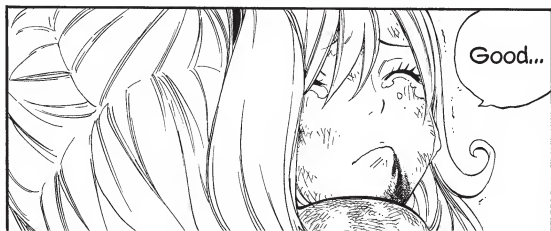
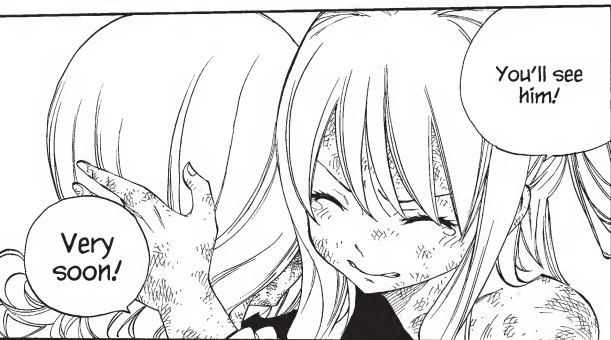
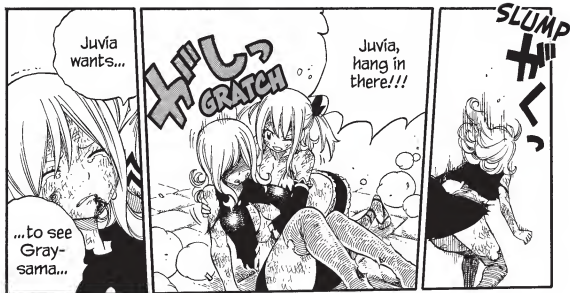
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フェアリーテイル

Chapter 395: Tartaros Arc, Part Five: Ultimate Pain





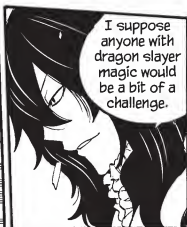




And we'll
take you
down to
do it!



We're
taking the
princess
home with
us!

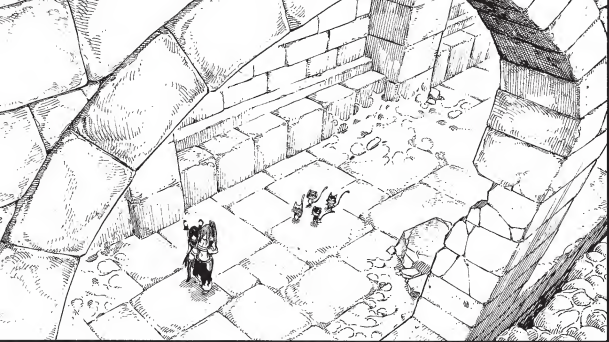


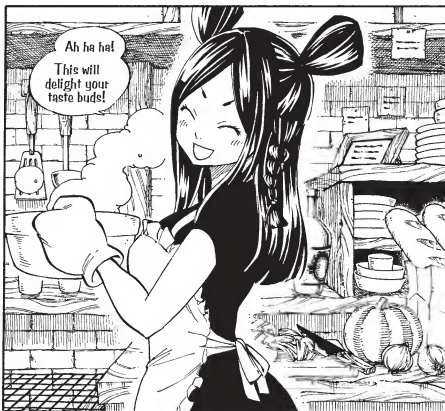
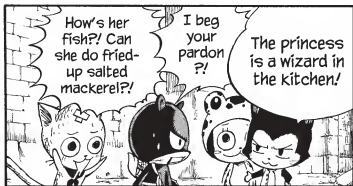
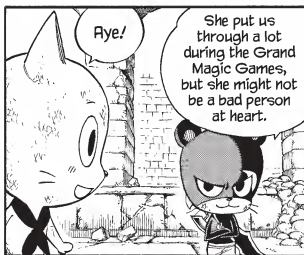
I suppose
anyone with
dragon slayer
magic would
be a bit of a
challenge.



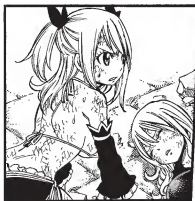
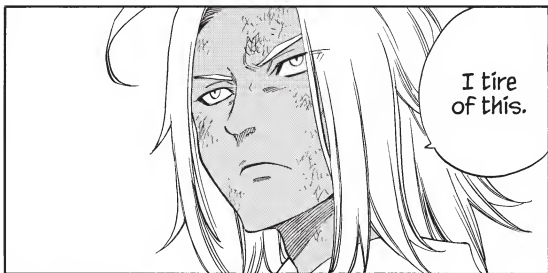
It makes
my heart
pound ever
so slightly.

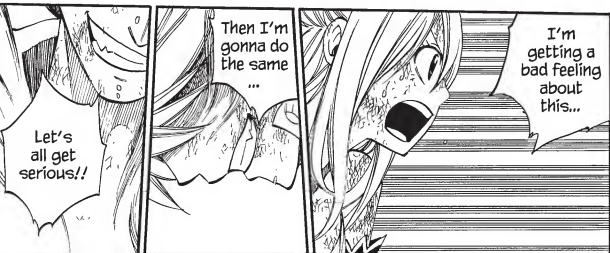
You are the
first humans
to last this
long against
Mard Geer.









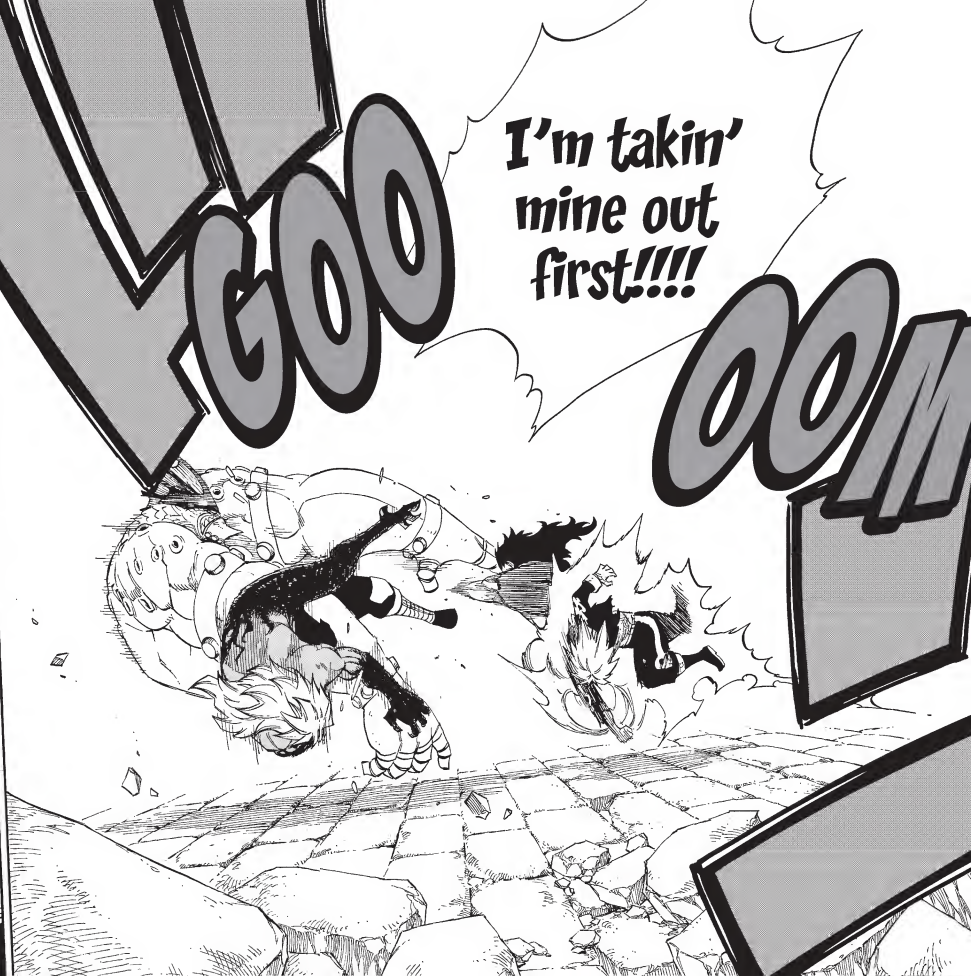
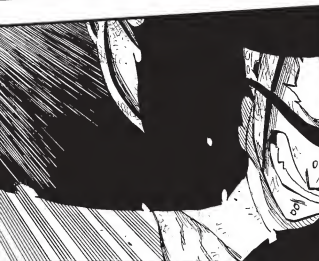
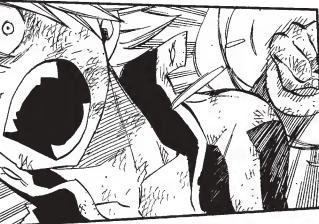
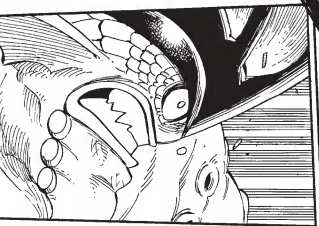
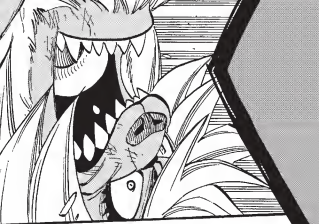




TETSUEI-
RYÔ**
MODE!!!!



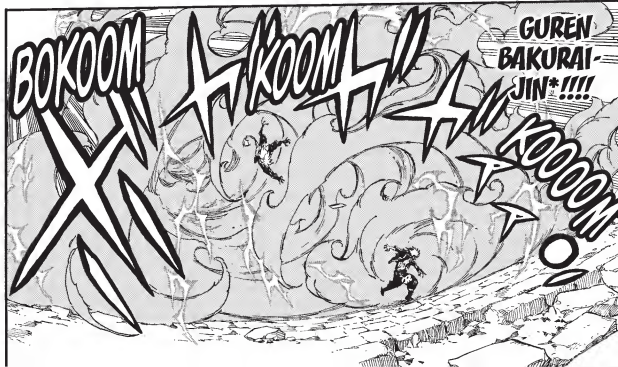


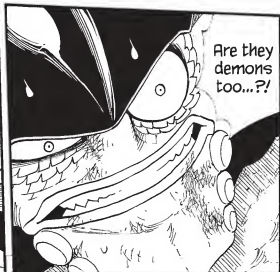
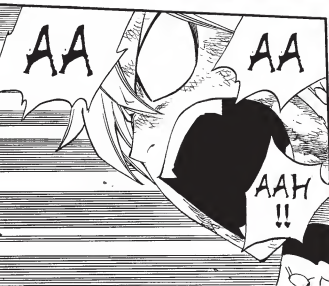
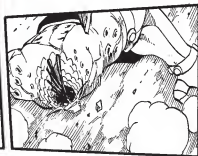
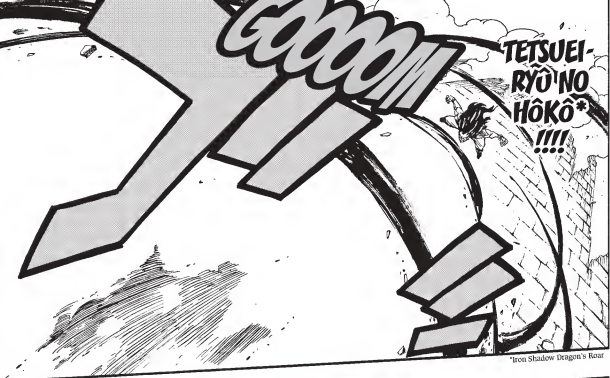


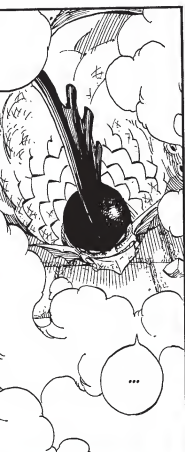
**I'm takin'
mine out
first!!!!**



*Blazing Depth-Charge: Sword







I don't
get it.

B
W
A
A
H
?!!!



I'M
GONNA
BEAT
YOU!!!!



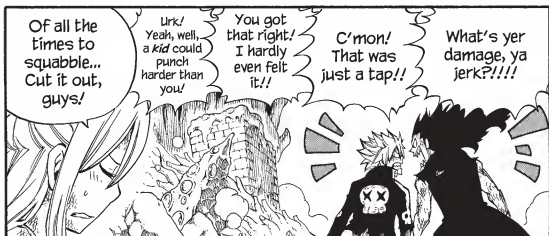
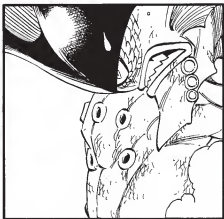
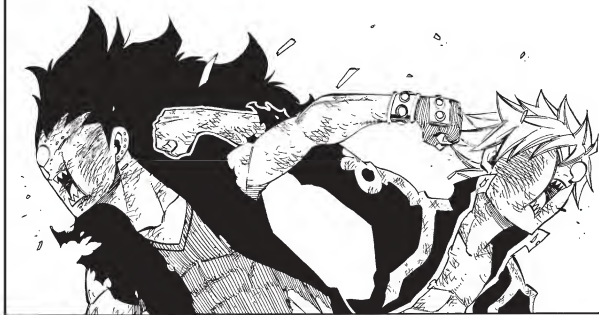
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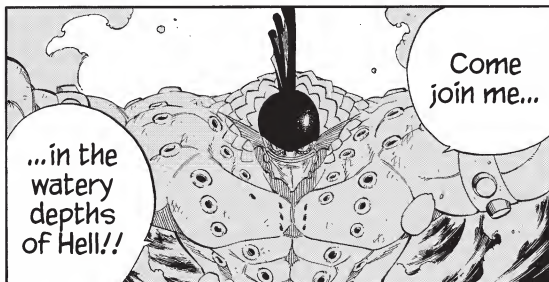
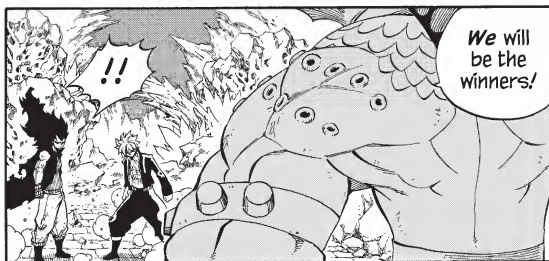
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フェアリーテイル

Chapter 396: Air



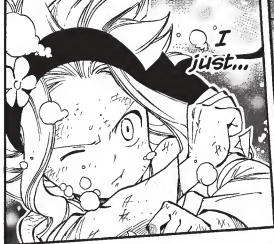


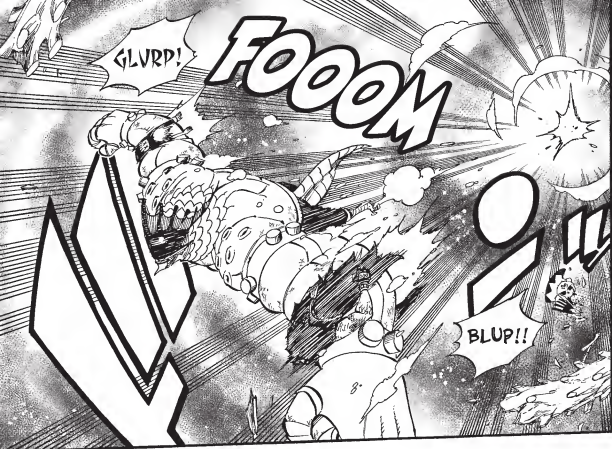




*Depth of Hell's Darkness







My fire
won't
light!!



You
little...



Salamander!!
Get the girls
and find some
way outta this
water!!!



And the
other one
is just
watching
?!

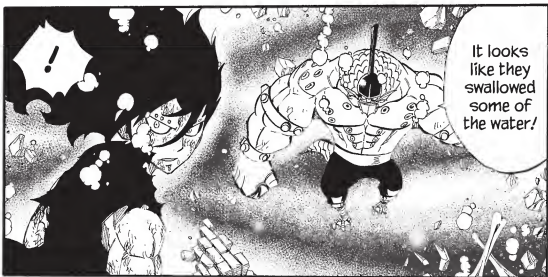
They think
we'll go
down that
easy?!

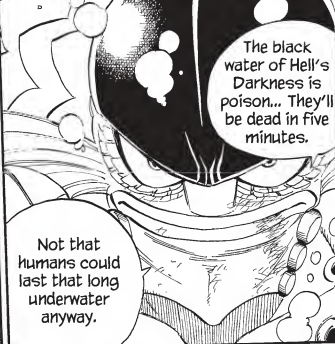


Awful fast
in the water,
ain't he?!



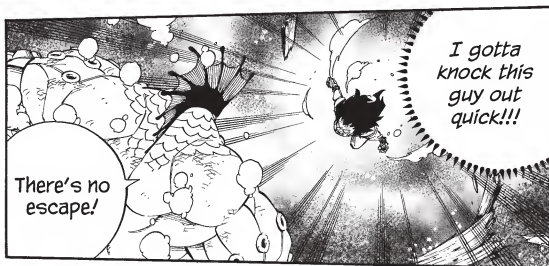
BLORP?





The black water of Hell's Darkness is poison... They'll be dead in five minutes.

Not that humans could last that long underwater anyway.



There's no escape!

I gotta knock this guy out quick!!!



He's fast!!!



I've flooded every floor!



**DEEP
IMPACT
!!!!**

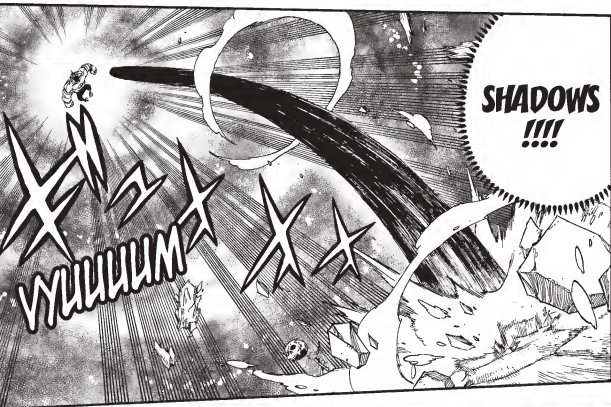




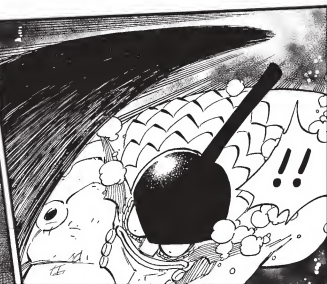
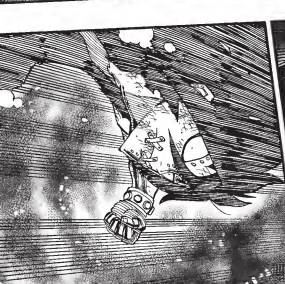
I need
a way to
move faster
than him
underwater
!!!



Soon you'll
be nothing
but silt at
the bottom
of the black
sea!!



SHADOWS
!!!!

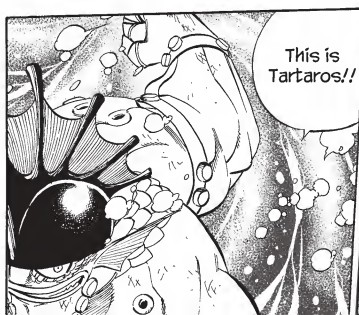


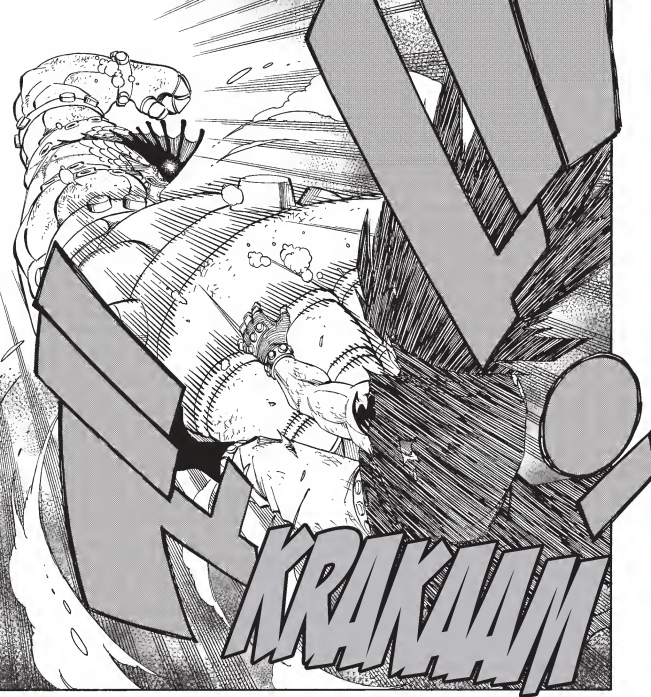


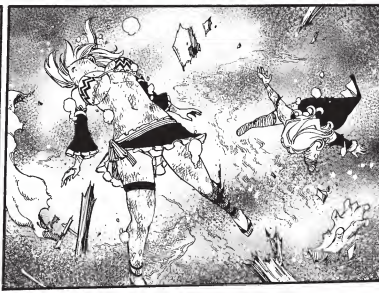
from Dragon Sword











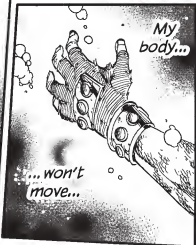


Dammit...
I can't see
nothing no
more...



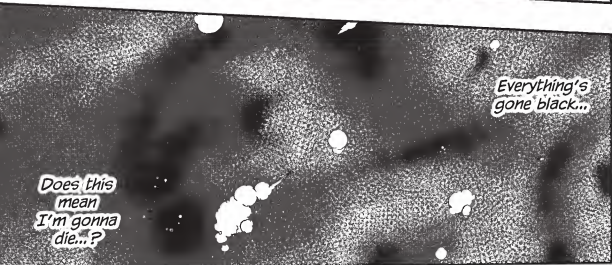
If I
just had
some
air...

...I
could
take this
creep
down...



My
body...

...won't
move...



Everything's
gone black...

Does this
mean
I'm gonna
die...?



Can't...
hold
on...

...anymore...



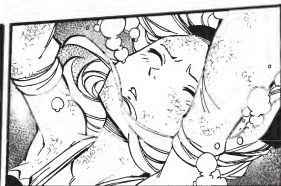
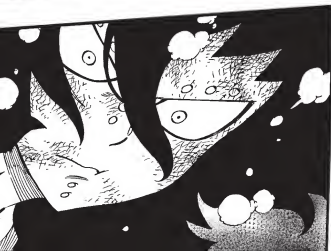
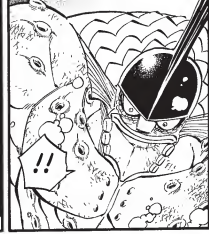
Who
needs
light?!
I need
air!!

Gimme
air!!!!



A
light...?







**OUTTA
MY
WAY
!!!!**

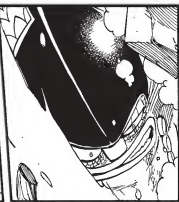
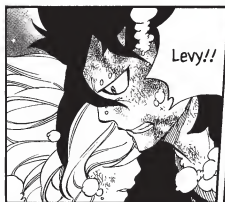
**GAAAH
!!**

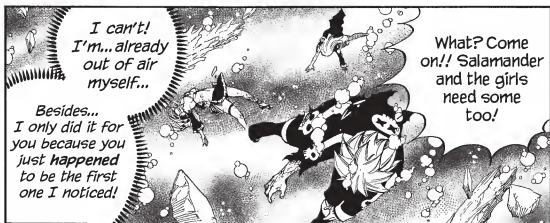
FAIRY TAIL

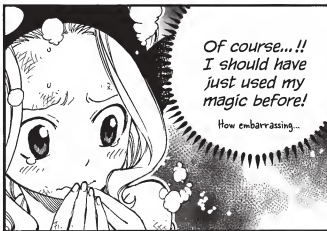
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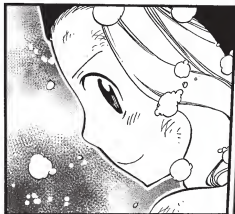
Chapter 397: Steel



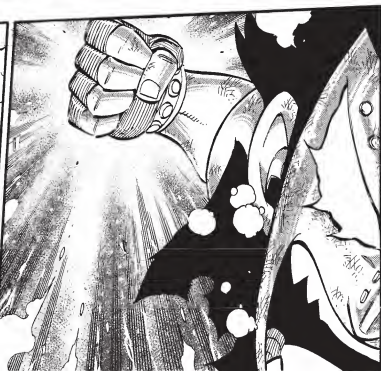
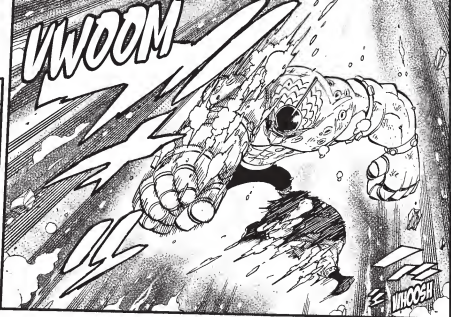


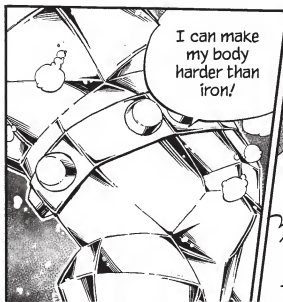
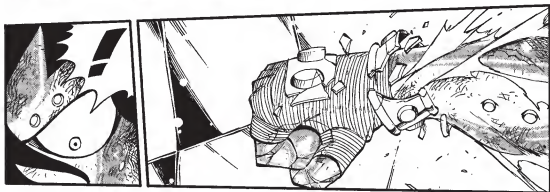












I can make
my body
harder than
iron!



GAA

AA

AA

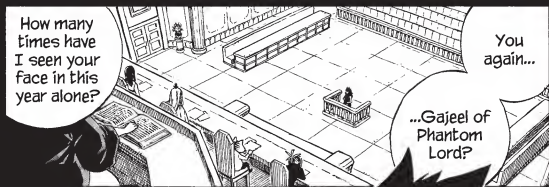
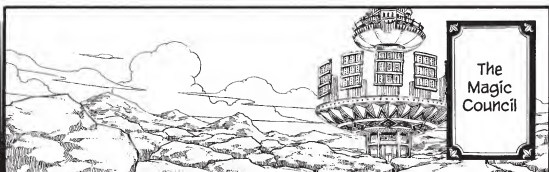
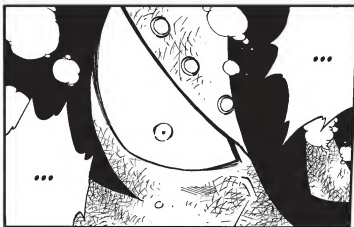
AA

AA

AH!!

AA





You again?

Wait there, Gajeel.

You should leave Phantom.

My advice is the same as it ever was.



COUNCIL MEMBER
ELDER BELNO

You think you can order an iron dragon slayer around?!

Listen, you old bag!

I will repeat myself as many times as necessary.

Phantom's aggression is growing more extreme. They will soon reach a point where we will have no choice but to...

You can take your advice and shove it! You got no business tellin' me what to do!



You
got
some
nerve...



Each and
every one of
them was
lonely, deep
down inside.

I've seen
hundreds of
young men
like you.



Rather...

...I
suggest you
give your
life some
meaning.

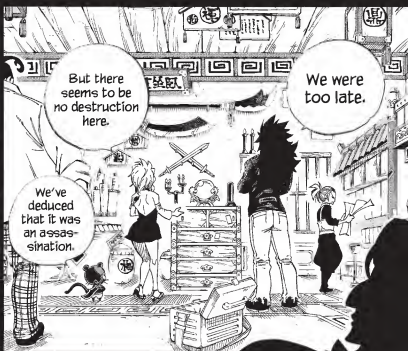
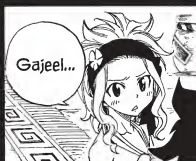
I'm not
saying you
must become
an upstanding
citizen.



We're goin'
to war with
Fairy Tail!



If that's what
ya want...
I got plenty
of meaning
in my life
already!





**And I
couldn't do
anything
to pay you
back!**



**I'll
remember
your words
instead.**

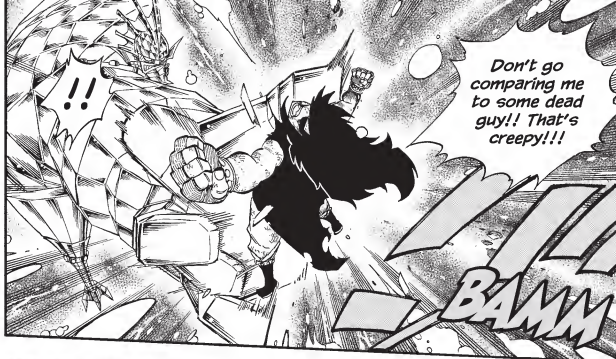
**I'll get
revenge for
you!!! No...
That ain't
right...**



**You look
much like
my late
son.**

**Like that
one time
when you
said...**

**And I'm
gonna try
my best to
live up to
them.**



*Don't go
comparing me
to some dead
guy!! That's
creepy!!!*



*I ain't the
scrap iron
that I used
to be!!*

*I got
somethin' to
show you, ya
old hag, so
you better be
looking down
here right
now!!*



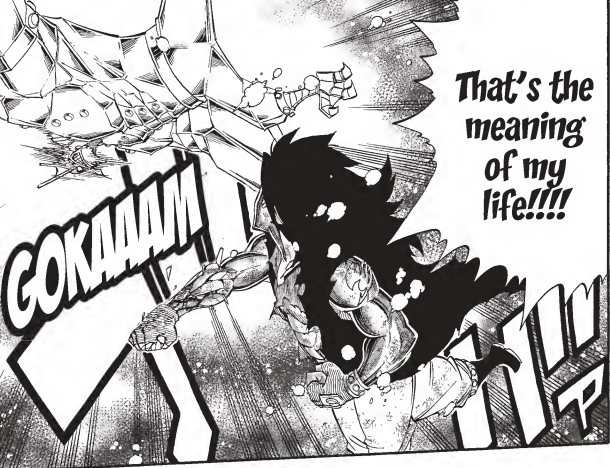
*No... I will
keep them
safe!!!*



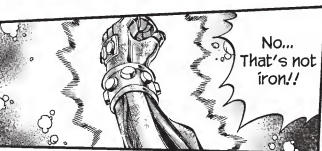
*But...
I wanna keep
those guys
behind me
safe!!!*



*I got no idea if
this is the sort
of "meaning"
you were talkin'
about!!*



**That's the
meaning
of my
life!!!!**



No...
That's not
iron!!



How
could mere
iron get
through my
defenses
?!

Not
possible
!!



Aa

aa

aa

aa

ah!!



He
turned
into
steel
...?!!



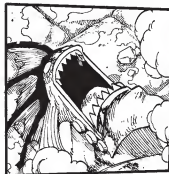
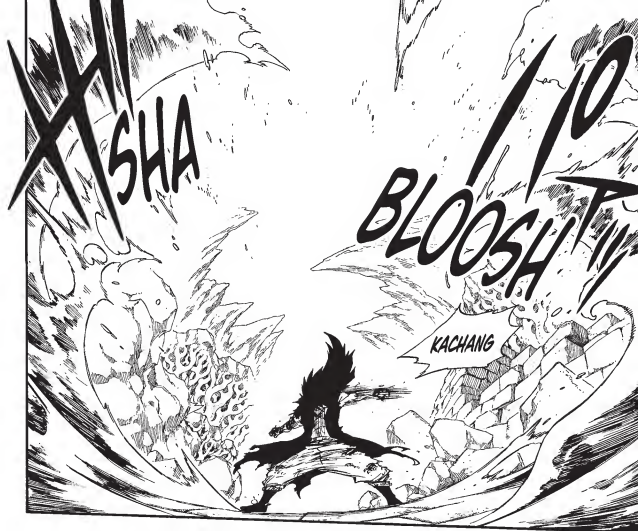
Iron plus
carbon equals...

... Steel.



Has his
skin been
absorbing
carbon from
the black
water...?



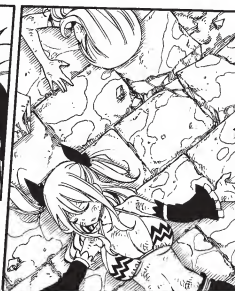
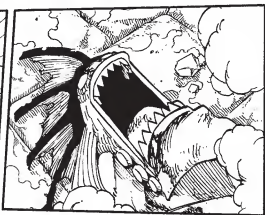
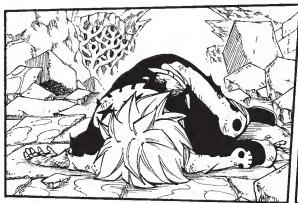
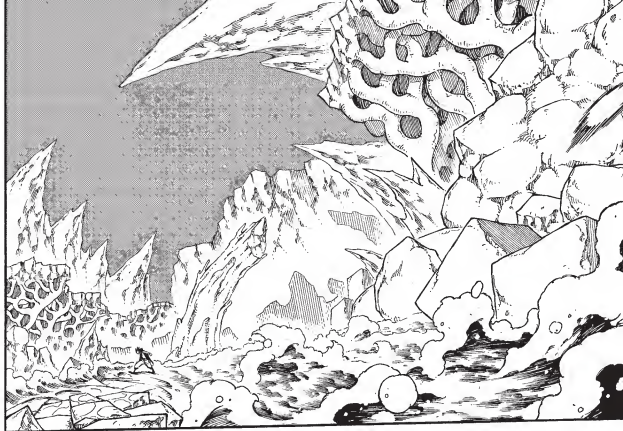


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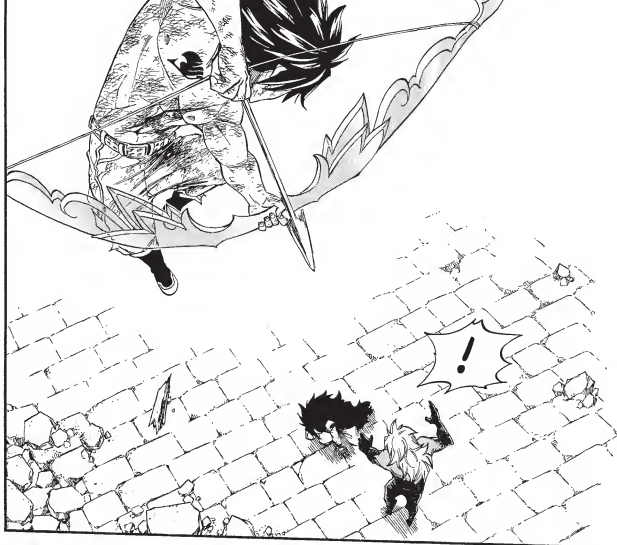
フェアリーテイル

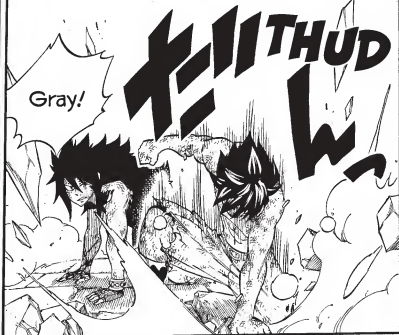
Chapter 398: The Final Duels



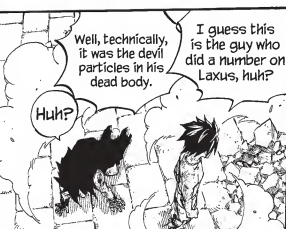








Gray!



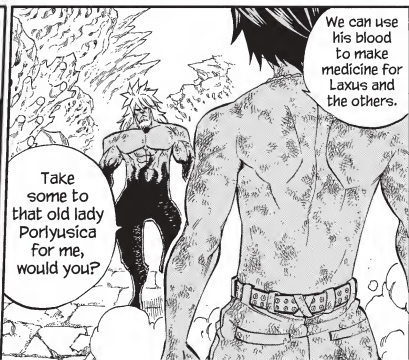
Well, technically,
it was the devil
particles in his
dead body.

I guess this
is the guy who
did a number on
Lexus, huh?

Huh?



Ask me again
after you
actually do
him in!



Take
some to
that old lady
Porlyusica
for me,
would you?

We can use
his blood
to make
medicine for
Lexus and
the others.



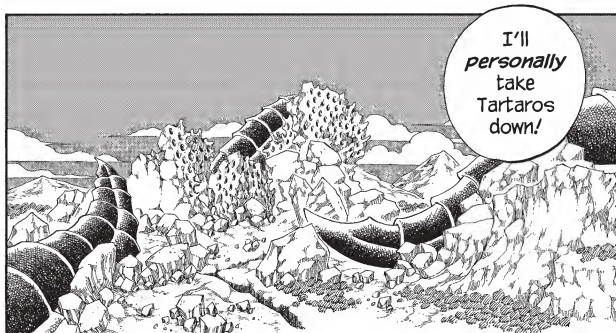


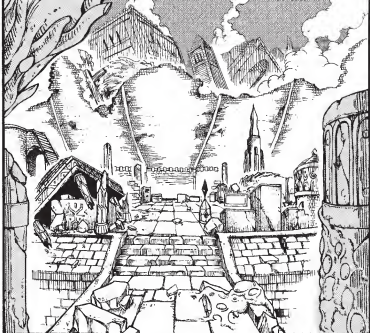


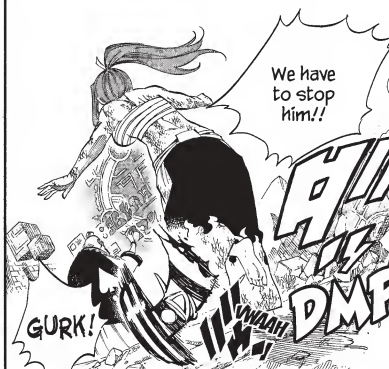
SHINING

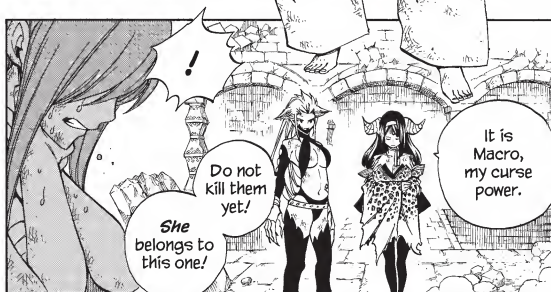
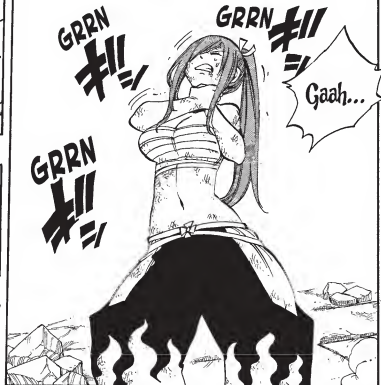
LONG
SWORD
OFFICE
DEMON
ZERO
!!!!

CHIKK









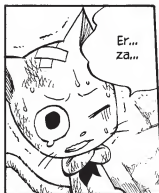


Indeed, I am.
Though I lack
Keyes-sama's
finesse,

my Macro
grants me
some measure
of control over
the deceased.

And with the
authority of the
chairman, we are
able to activate...

...all 3,000 Face
units directly
from this location.

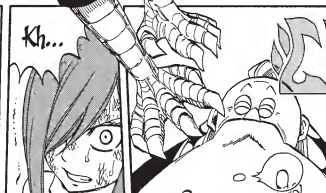


Er...
Zā...

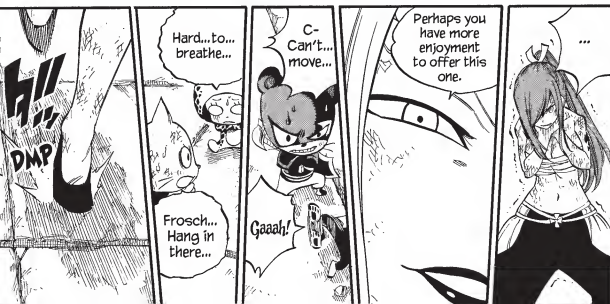
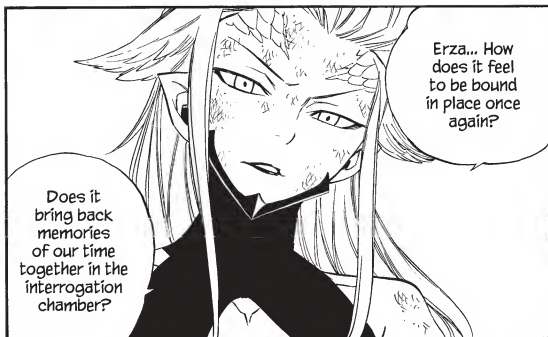
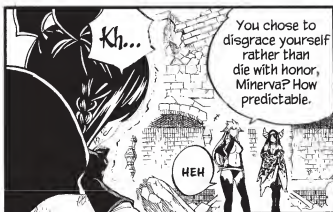


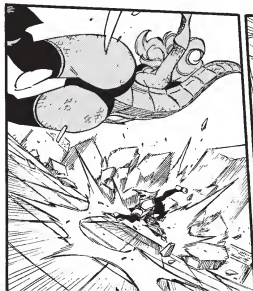
Ngggh!

AGGH!



Kh...







And the chair-
man's
down!!



Right!! The
feeling's
back in my
limbs!!



We can
move
again!!



!!!



Mira... I
was worried
about you!!

Same
here!

I think
I just used
up...what was
left of my
strength...



You
impertinent...



HAHH

HAHH

HAHH

HAHH



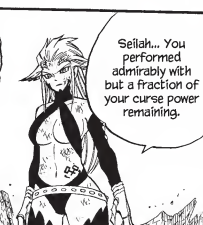
Be at
ease.



The Face
Operation...



Forgive
me... it was
my last...



Seilah... You
performed
admirably with
but a fraction of
your curse power
remaining.



The chairman has completed his task.

The 3,000 Face units will detonate shortly.

RUMMMMMMBLE



We did it!!!



No...



!!



Bask in Zeref-kyô's magnificence...

Please... Fulfill our shared yearning...



Kyôka-sama...

You are the lone surviving member of the Nine Demon Gates.

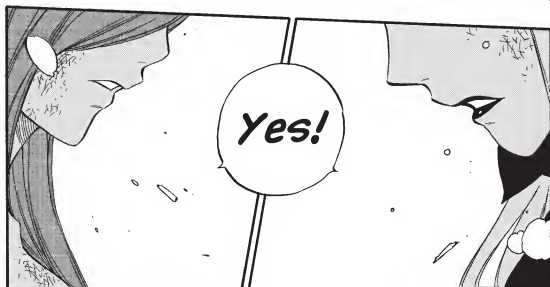
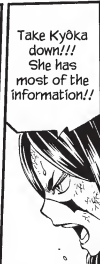
She's sucking
up Seilah-sama's
curse power! Oh,
how much power
will she gain? How
much?

That's
my
trick!

Your soul
will share
in that
joy.

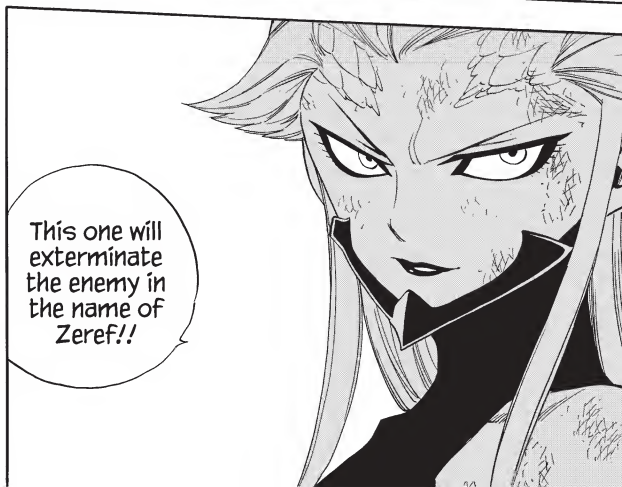
SHIING
X K K K I I =

Of
course.





I will
stop
Face!!



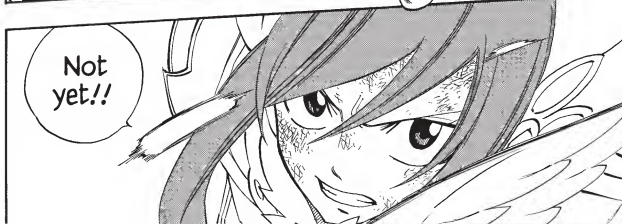
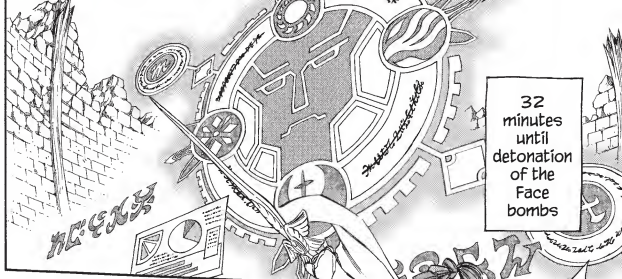
This one will
exterminate
the enemy in
the name of
Zeref!!

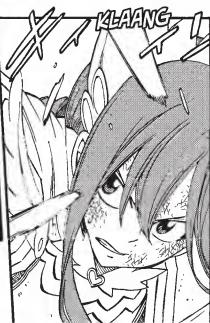
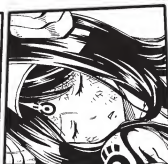
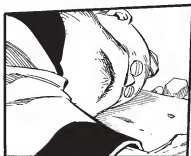
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

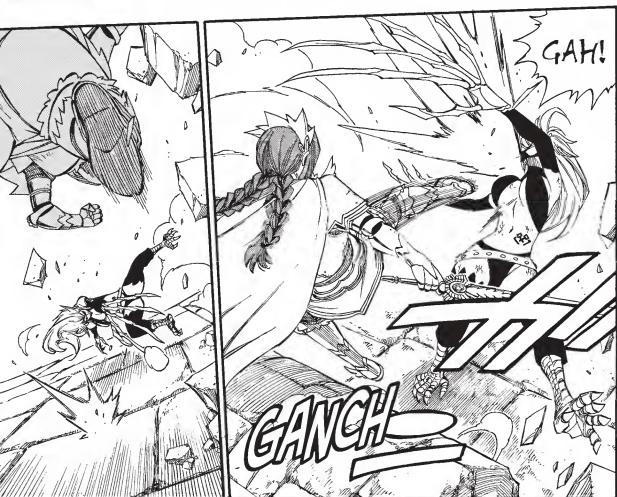
Chapter 399: Wings of Despair

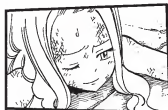








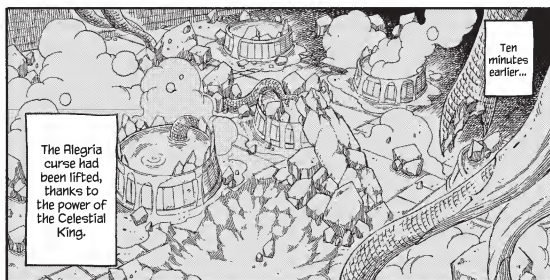


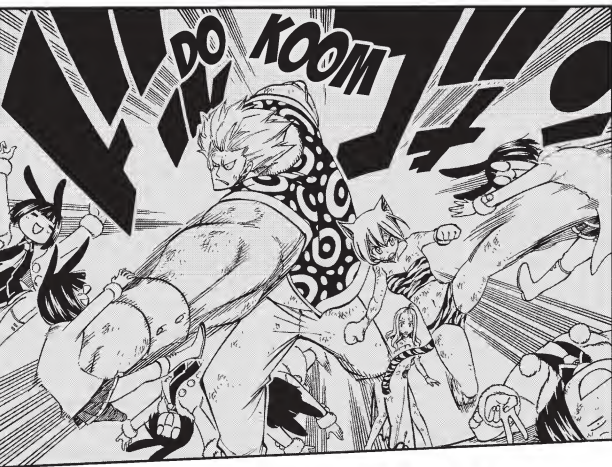


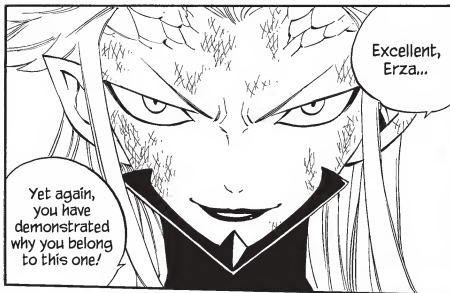
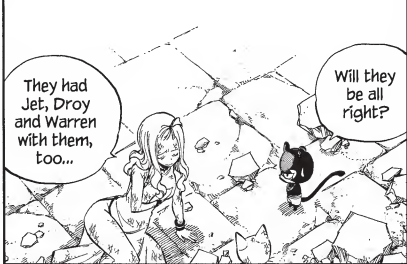
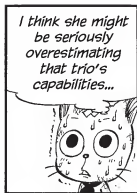
Fro thinks so also.

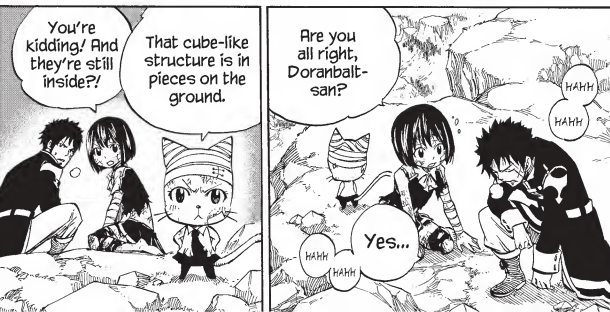
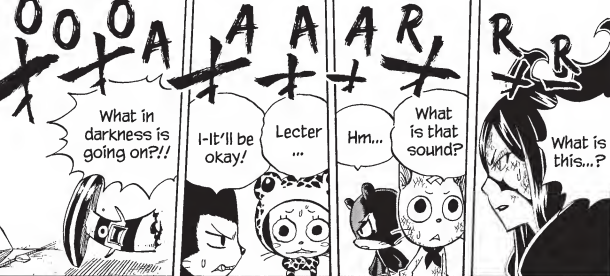
Erza does not disappoint.















I'm just glad everybody's okay...

He left about as fast as he came, though.



Gray-sama was here?



What's wrong, Natsu?



That'll help Laxus and the others, right?

Okay!

Levy, take this to that old hag Porlyusica.



Huh?



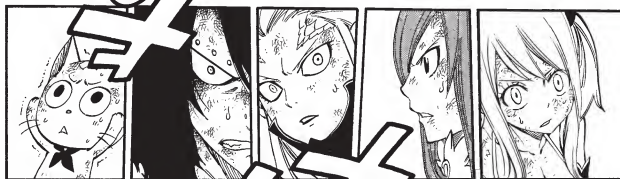
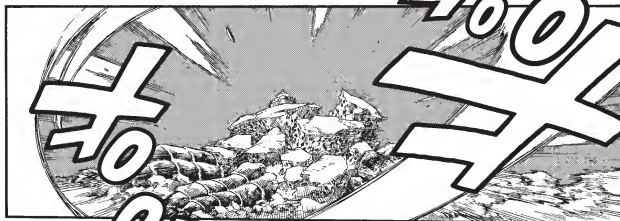
Gajeel... can't you hear it?

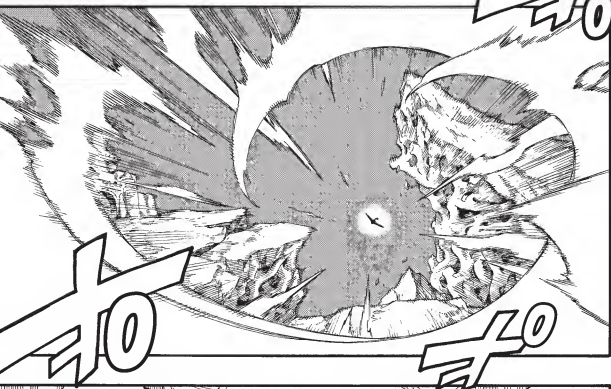


Aw, he's probably just POed that Ice-For-Brains got a quick power-up.



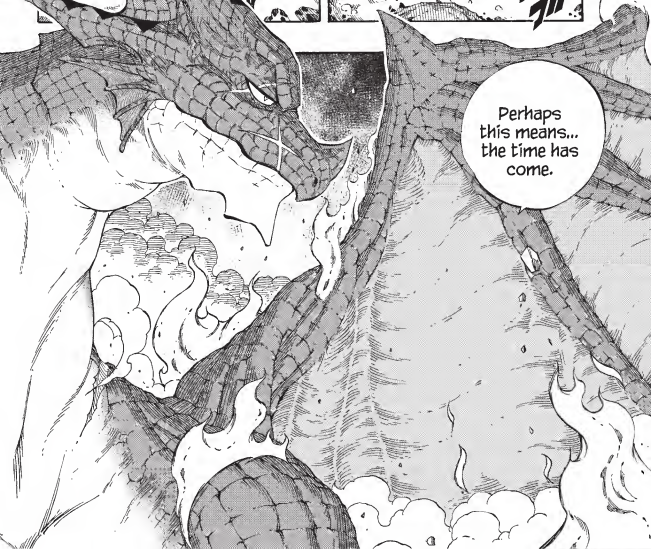








**IT'S
ACNO-
LOGIA
!!!!**



Perhaps
this means...
the time has
come.

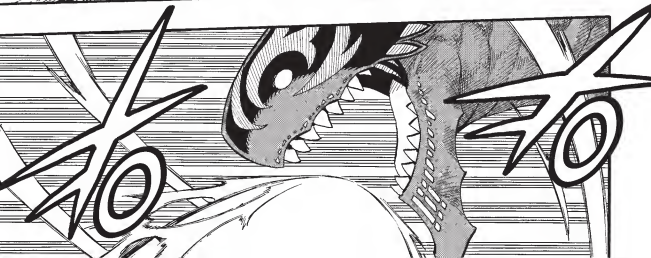
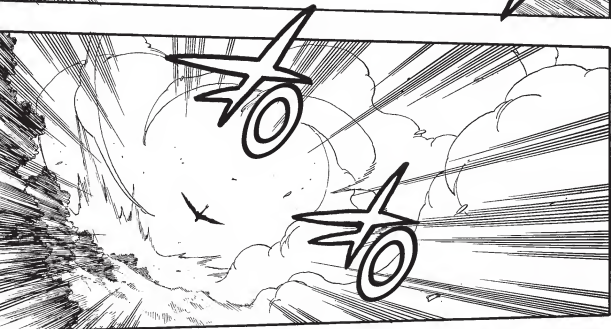
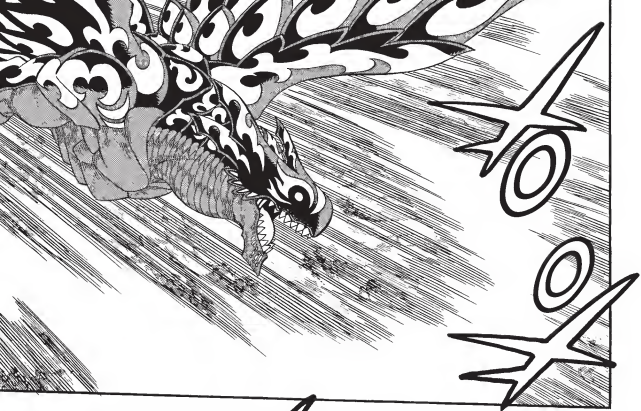
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

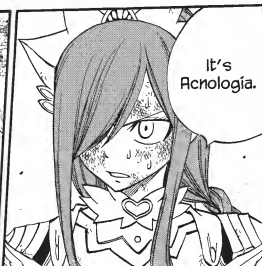
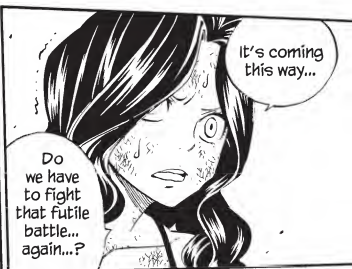
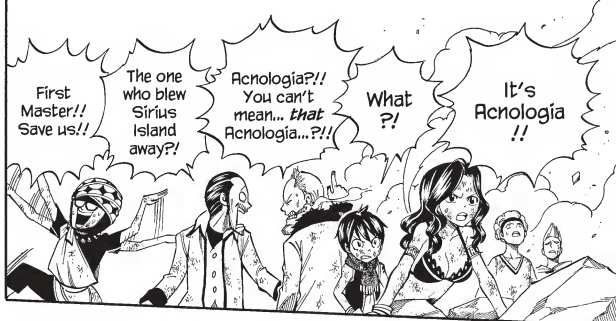
Chapter 400:
Wings of Hope

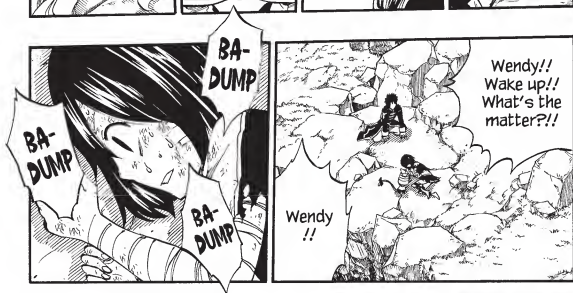
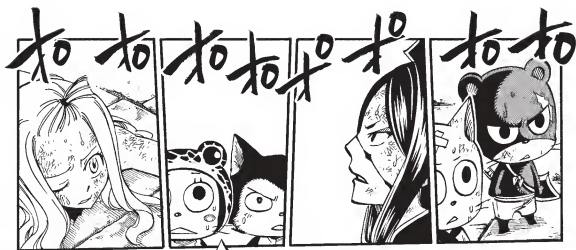


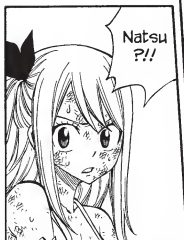


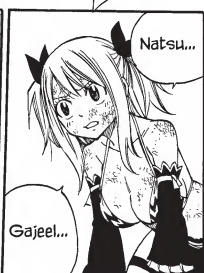
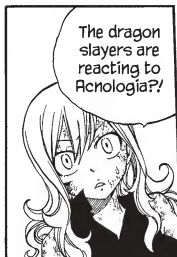


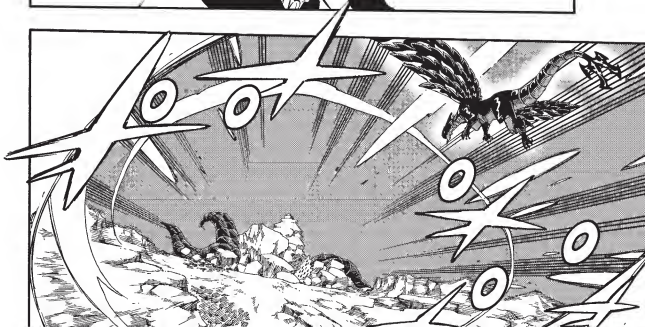
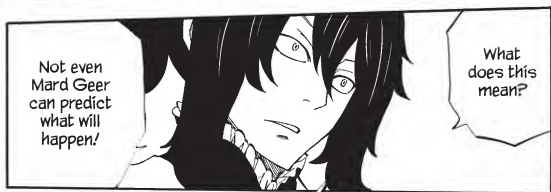
A black and white manga-style illustration of a massive explosion. Large, stylized sound effects like "BOOM", "WHAM", and "BOOM" are scattered across the scene. A large, dark, swirling mass dominates the center, with a bright light source visible within. A small figure is seen flying through the air on the left side of the explosion.













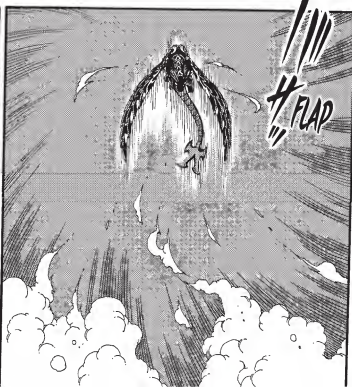
Perhaps he
is afraid?



I see...
His target
is END.



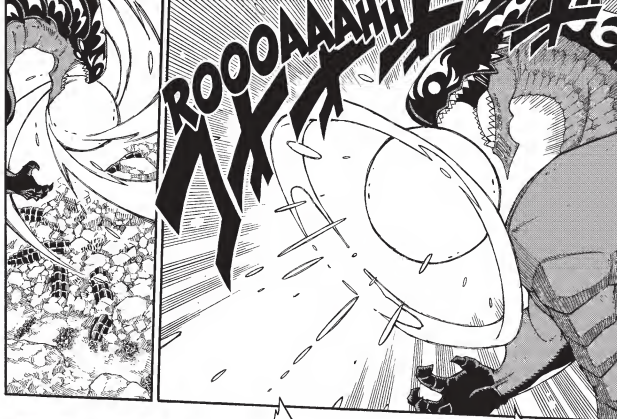
Fasci-
nating!

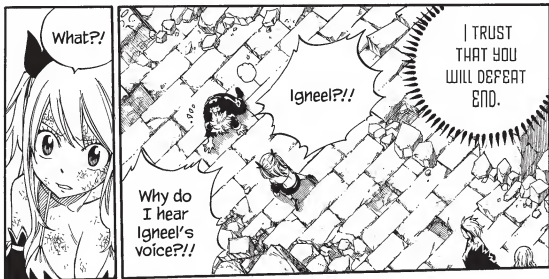
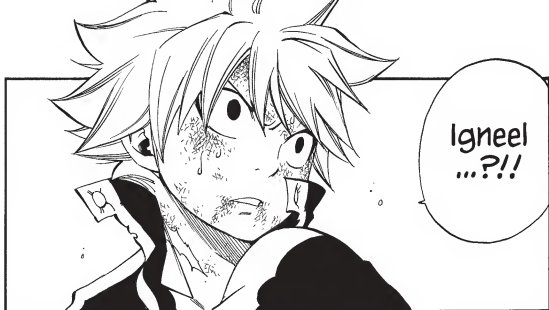


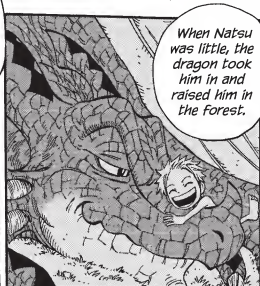
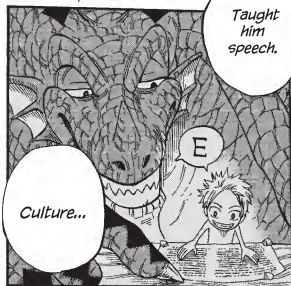
FLAP

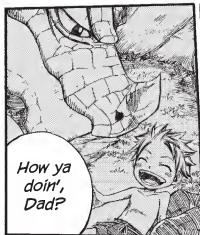
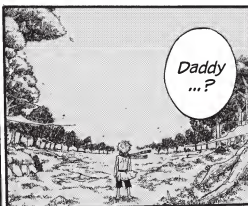


Has he come
to destroy
END now,
before the
regeneration
can take
place?





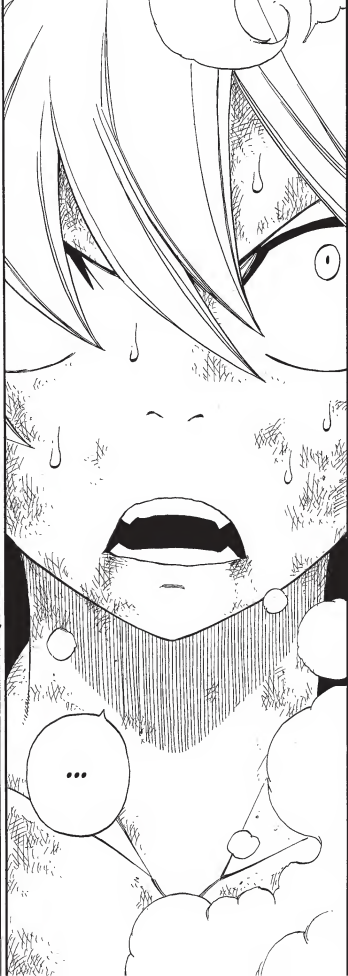


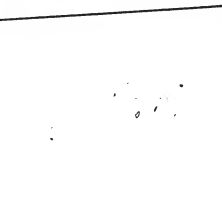
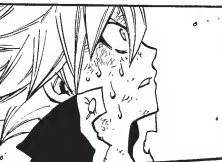
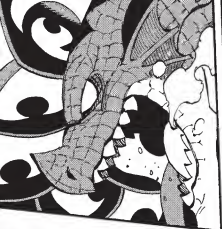




I've been
within you
this entire
time.





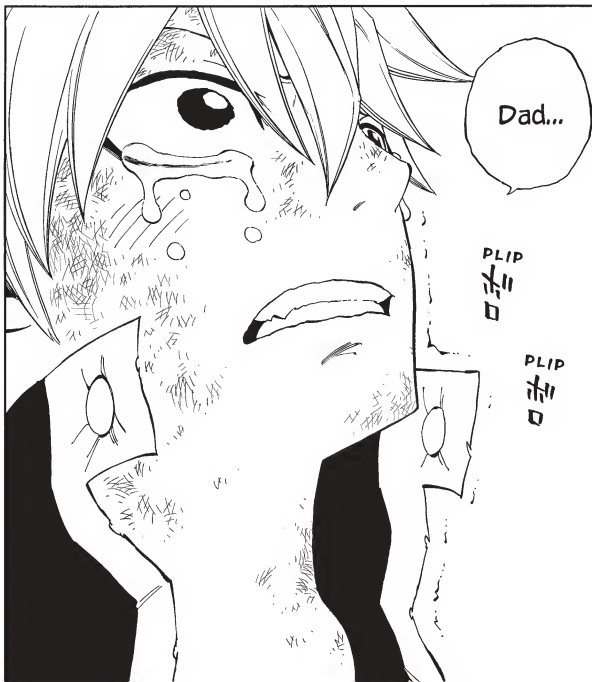


Just
stay
alive
!!!

Natsu
!!!!

DO

GOOON

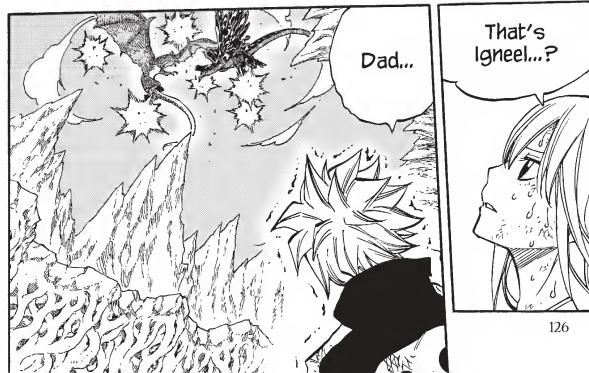
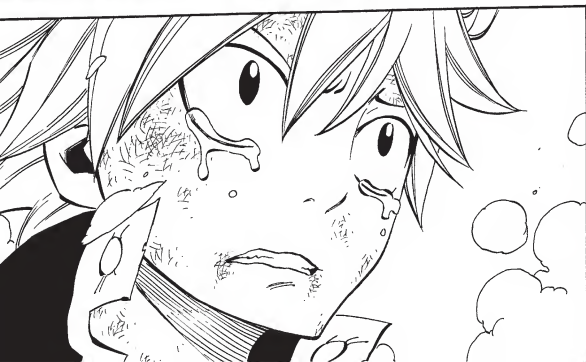


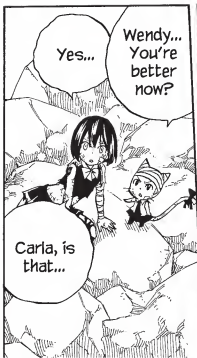
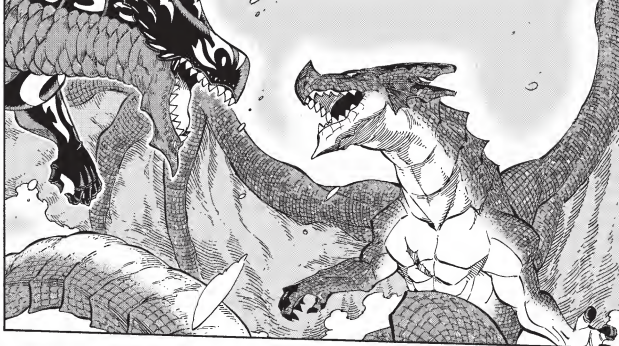
FAIRY TAIL

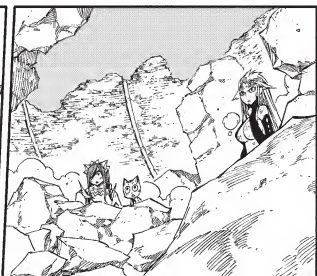
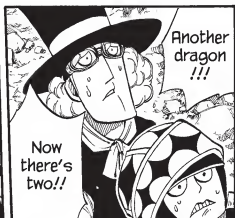
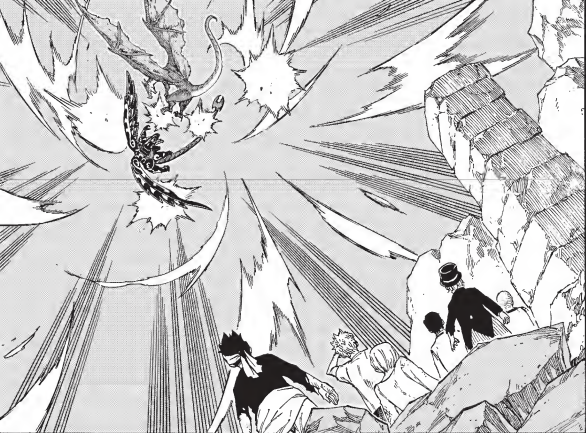
フェアリーテイル

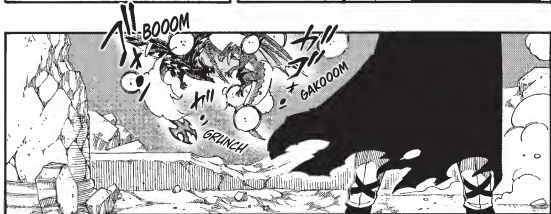
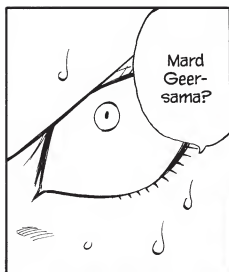
Chapter 401: Igneel vs. Acnologia

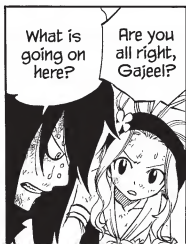
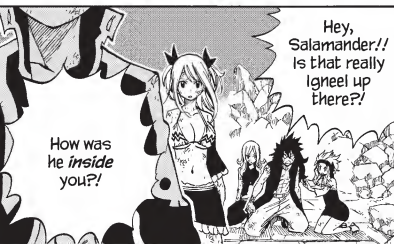
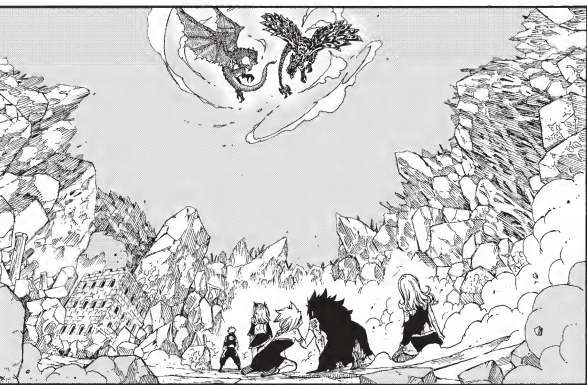
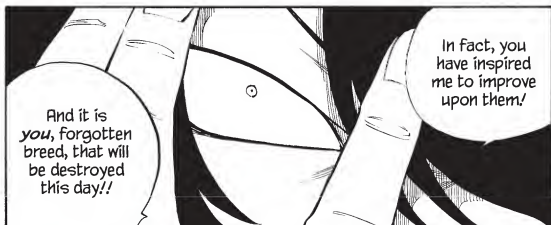














I ain't gonna take this lying down!!!!



**Igneel
!!!!**



**Tell
me
now
!!!!**



**I told
you
we'd
talk
after!!**

**Foolish
boy!!**



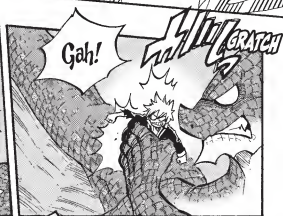
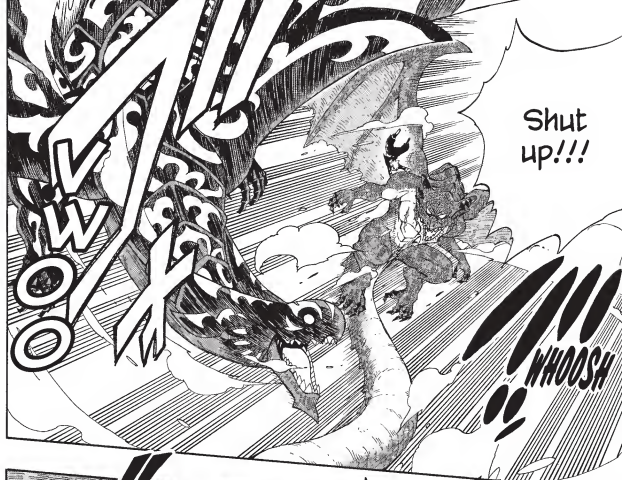
**And where
are Gajeel's
and Wendy's
dragons?!!**

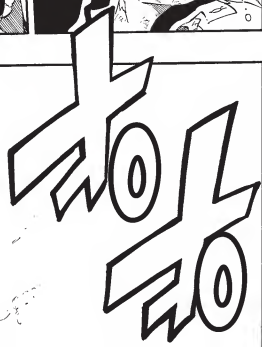
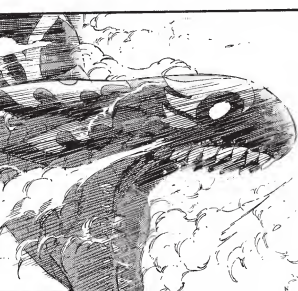
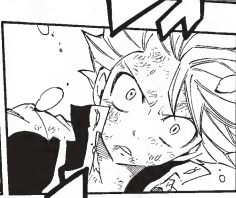
**What
happened
on July 7th,
TTT?!!**

Ngh!

**Why'd you
just up and
disappear
all of a
sudden?!!**

**Were you
really inside
my body?!
How'd *that*
work?!!**



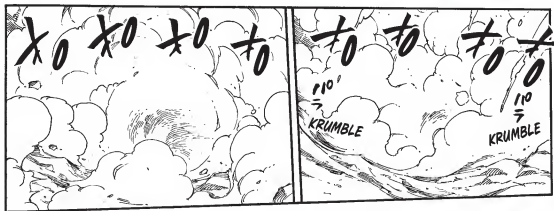


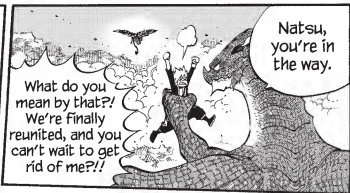


DO

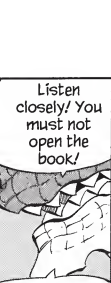
KOOOM

BOOM







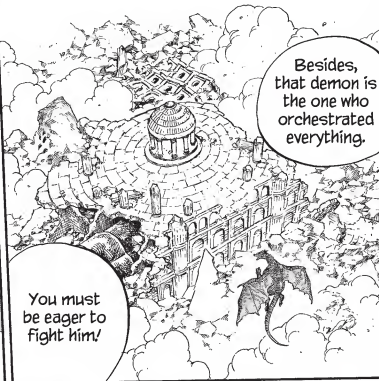


Listen closely! You must not open the book!



He's the one...

Nor should you destroy it! You must simply steal it!



You must be eager to fight him!

Besides, that demon is the one who orchestrated everything.



I will tell you everything you want to know.

...



If it's a job request, you gotta give me something for doin' it!

What?!!

What's the pay?



It's a deal !!!!

But you'd
better
keep your
promise
!!!!

You
stay
right
there
!!!!

Yes.

Remember,
you gave
your word
!!!!

You
got
it!!!!

Go,
Natsu
!!!!

VWOOOM



Let's

do

**this
!!**

I'm

all

fired

...

**...
uuu**

...

**... up
!!!!**

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 402: The Fire Dragon's Iron Fist

Bridge Marker: Mashima Gardens









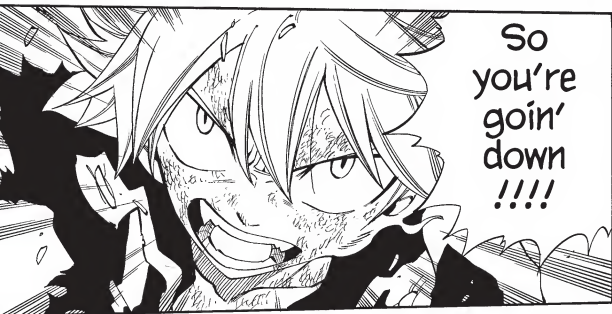


Ho?



I'm
takin'
that
book!!!

And I'm
gonna
stop Face
too!!!



So
you're
goin'
down
!!!!



VOOSH
VOOSH
VOOSH

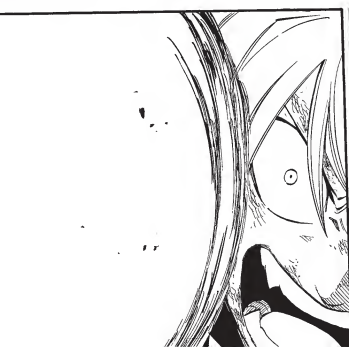
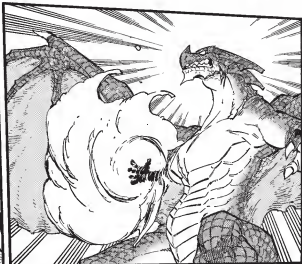


WHOOOSH





*Fire Dragon's

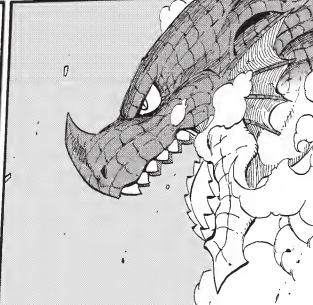
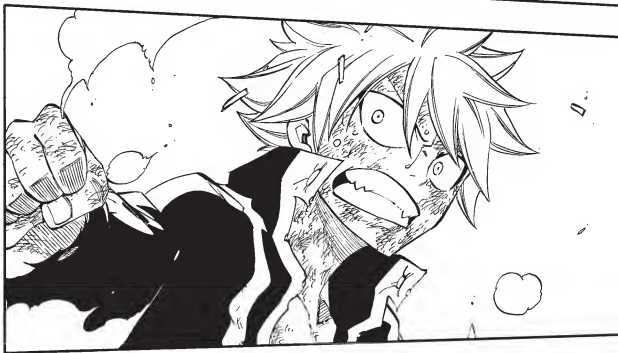
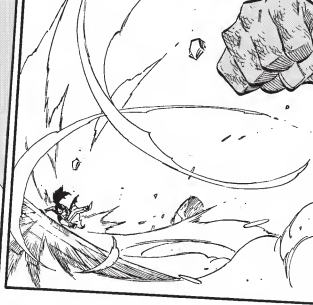
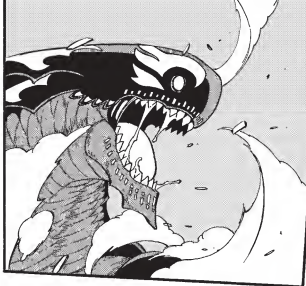


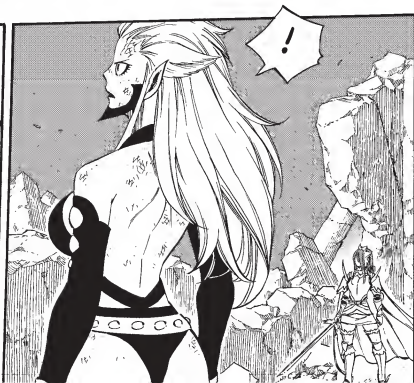
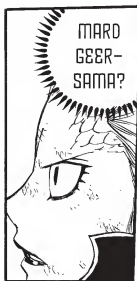
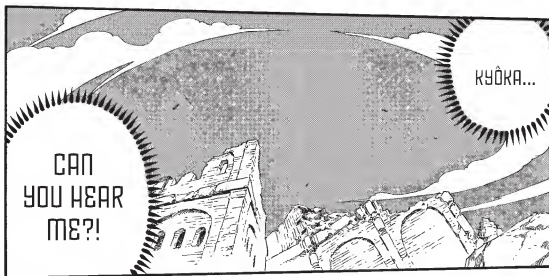


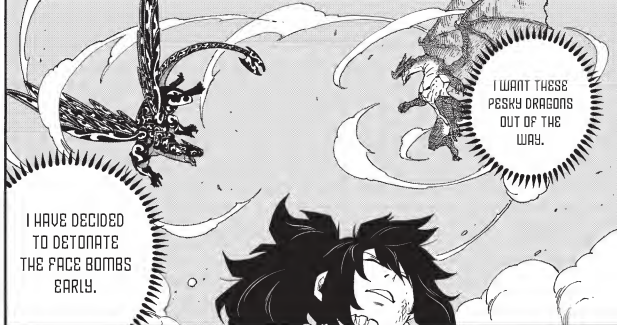
DO

...
TEKKEN*
!!!!!!

WHOOOM





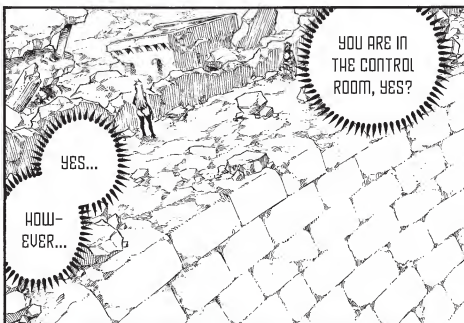


I HAVE DECIDED
TO DETONATE
THE FACE BOMBS
EARLY.

I WANT THESE
PESKY DRAGONS
OUT OF THE
WAY.



BOTH KEYES AND SEILAH
HAVE BEEN DEFEATED.
WE CAN NO LONGER
MANIPULATE THE
CHAIRMAN.



YES...

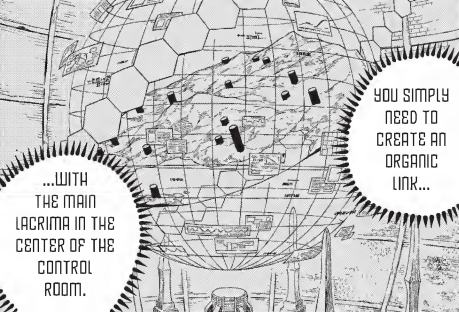
HOW-
EVER...

YOU ARE IN
THE CONTROL
ROOM, YES?



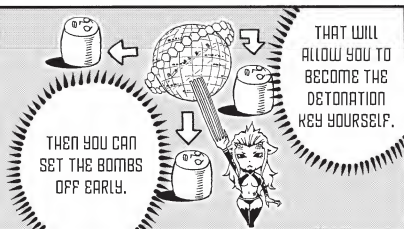
...AND YOU CAN
PROVIDE THAT
YOURSELF.

FEAR NOT! ALL
FACE NEEDS NOW
IS THE COMMAND
TO DETONATE
INSTANTLY...



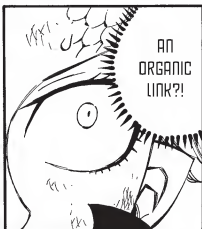
...WITH
THE MAIN
LACRIMA IN THE
CENTER OF THE
CONTROL
ROOM.

YOU SIMPLY
NEED TO
CREATE AN
ORGANIC
LINK...

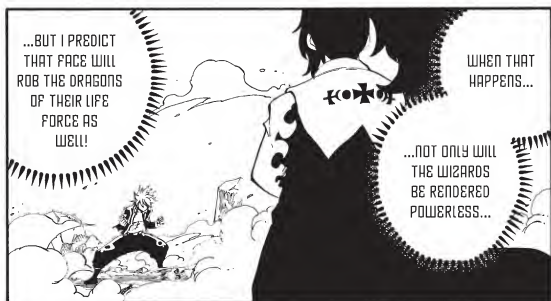


THEN YOU CAN
SET THE BOMBS
OFF EARLY.

THAT WILL
ALLOW YOU TO
BECOME THE
DETONATION
KEY YOURSELF.



AN
ORGANIC
LINK?!



...BUT I PREDICT
THAT FACE WILL
ROB THE DRAGONS
OF THEIR LIFE
FORCE AS
WELL!

WHEN THAT
HAPPENS...

...NOT ONLY WILL
THE WIZARDS
BE RENDERED
POWERLESS...

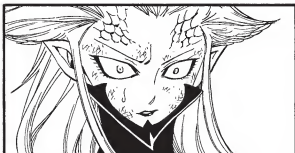
AND MASTER
END WILL BE
REVIVED!!

OUR
VICTORY
WILL BE
COMPLETE
!!!



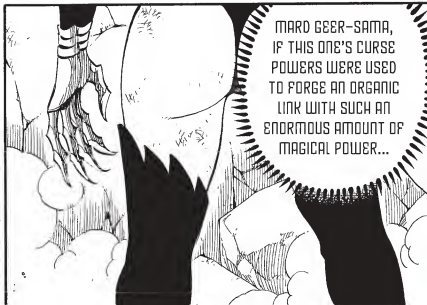
DO AS
I SAY!

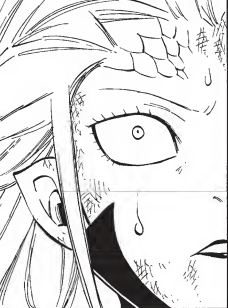
now...



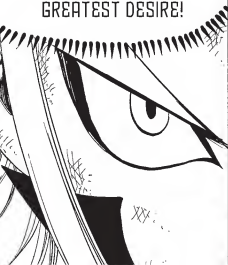
...THIS
ONE
WOULD
PERISH.

MARD GEER-SAMA,
IF THIS ONE'S CURSE
POWERS WERE USED
TO FORGE AN ORGANIC
LINK WITH SUCH AN
ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF
MAGICAL POWER...



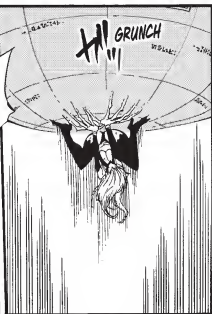
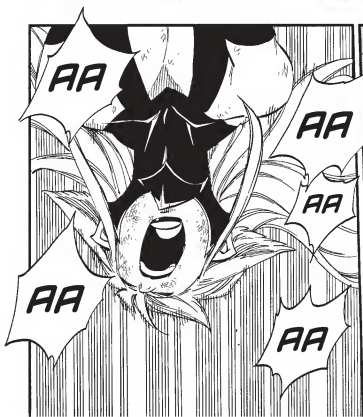
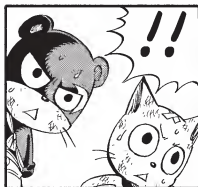


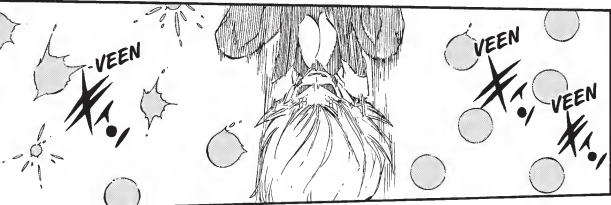
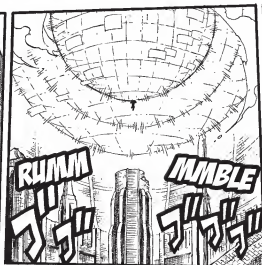
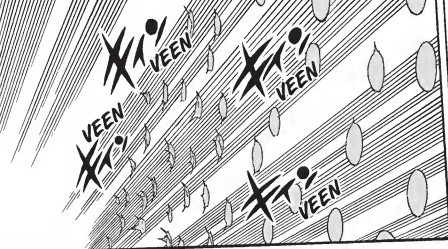
NO. THIS ONE WILL
GLADLY LAY DOWN HER
LIFE IN SERVICE OF OUR
GREATEST DESIRE!



YES,
AND?

SO
YOU
FEAR
DEATH?





Is this the number of Face bombs on the continent?!



Organic link
complete!!

This one has
become one
with the Face
detonation
switch!!!



Does she
intend to
set off the
Face bombs
early...?!

She
merged
with it?!

Why
would
she do
that?!

What
?!?

*Though
this one
shall perish
regardless
of the
outcome.*

The only
way to
stop
the Face
bombs is
to kill this
one.

The
situation
has become
quite
simple.



Indeed!?

You do not
yet know
this one's
power...

You seem
unable to
imagine your
own defeat.

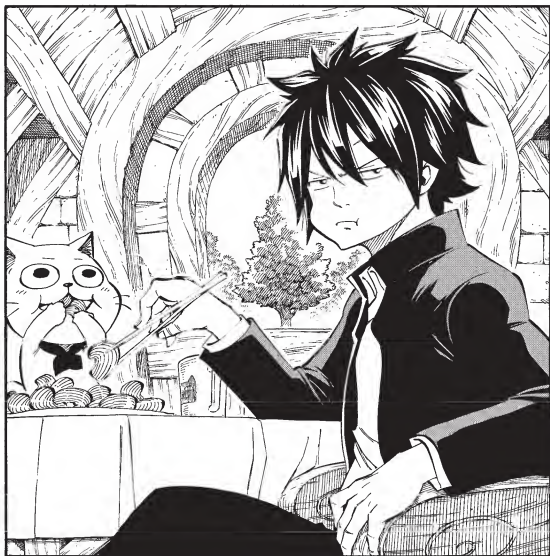
I see you
don't
lack for
confidence.

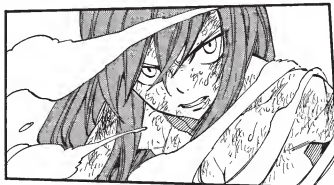
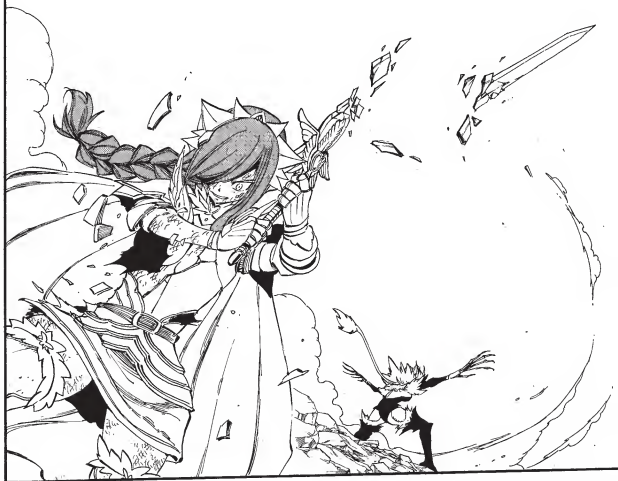


FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 403: Erza vs. Kyôka





Erza,
hurry!!

Is she
speeding
up the
countdown?



Erza,
hurry!!

Is she
speeding
up the
countdown?



You're kidding...

We're losing time!

You're kidding...

We're losing time!

32:41

KAMM

Kh!

You cannot defeat this one!

KAMM

Kh!

You cannot defeat this one!

KAMM

Kh!

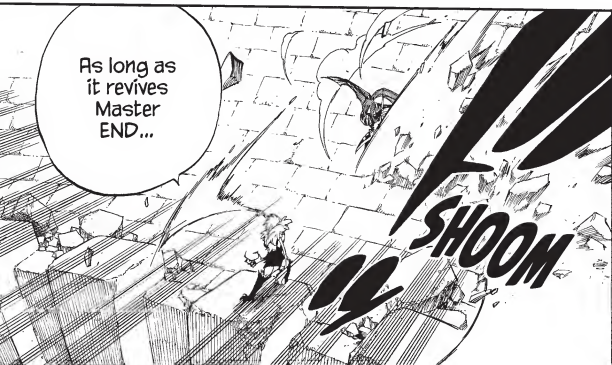
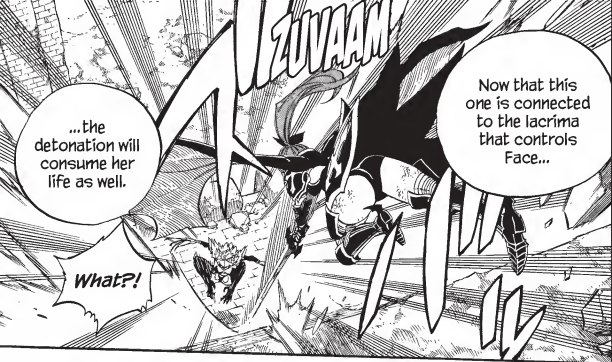
You cannot defeat this one!



This one's
curse power
is strength
enhancement!

Every
second
sees this
one's
power
increase!

*Without
limits!!*





And earns
this one
Zeref's
favor...!!!



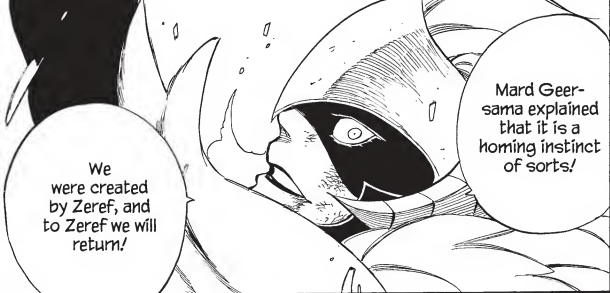
Because
fate wills
it!!



Why would
you go that
far?!!

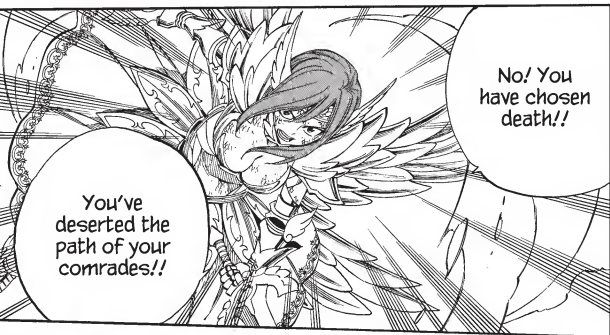


All demons
written in the
Book of Zeref
share a destiny...
to return to
Zeref!!



We
were created
by Zeref, and
to Zeref we will
return!

Mard Geer-
sama explained
that it is a
homing instinct
of sorts!



You've
deserted the
path of your
comrades!!

No! You
have chosen
death!!



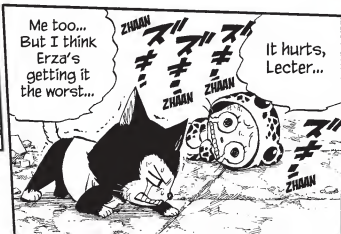
!!

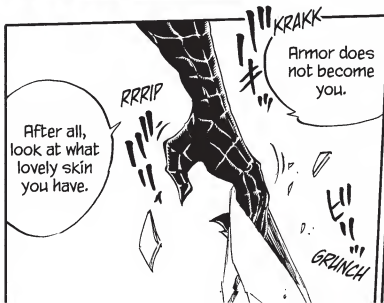
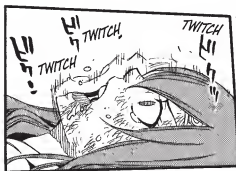
G

Silence
!!!!











Even Erza...
can be
broken...?

Is
this...
the
end...?

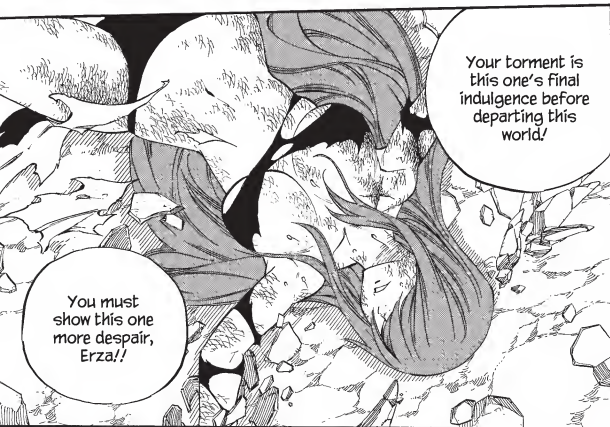


KRAKK
KRAKK
KRAKK



ZHAAN
ZHAAN
ZHAAN
ZHAAN
ZHAAN

Stop
it!!



Your torment is
this one's final
indulgence before
departing this
world!

You must
show this one
more despair,
Erza!!



Ah ha
ha ha!!



Heh heh
heh...



WITT

First, to rob
you of your
sight...



And hearing.



No, please stop! Erza will die!! Waaah!



Taste!



Then your sense of touch...

Smell!

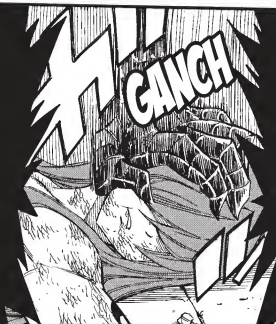


Our total
victory is at
hand!!!! Yes,
this one's
soul shall
depart, but
with it will go
humanity's
future!!!!

Ah ha
ha ha
ha ha
ha ha!!



And he shall
take his time
with you, day
in and day out,
wresting from
you each piece
of your body
and soul one by
one!!!!



This one shall
not kill you!!!!
No, you shall
taste a suffering
much worse than
death!!!! This one
shall give you to
the Underworld
King as his
plaything!!!!

Is there
no greater
delight
?!!!

Is there
no greater
delight
?!!!



I can... see...

What?

The light that guides my path!!!

...

No matter what you steal, there is one thing that cannot be taken from me...

!! GRNH !!

GRNH



Sh-She
stood
up?!

With all
her senses
gone...?



Im...
possible...



BOOOOM

ZWAN
ZWAN
ZWAN



Radiating
from the path
I walk with my
friends!

It illuminates
our way
forward!!!



Even
without
sight...
Without
hearing...

There is a
light within
me!!

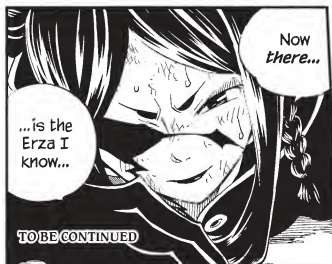


I fear nothing!!!!



**You want to
talk about
the ultimate
pain?!!!**

**That would
be the agony
of losing
the light of
friendship!!!!**



...is the
Erza I
know...

**Now
there...**



**This
cannot
be!!!!**

**How?!!
She
should
be blind
!!!!**

TO BE CONTINUED

あとがき

Afterword

This volume contains Gajeel's backstory with Elder Belno. Actually I've had this bit of plot for a long time. The truth is I had this chapter where Elder Belno was the trigger that got Gajeel to join Fairy Tail, but since that changed to Makarov getting him to join, his story with Elder Belno was shelved, forever, I thought. Here, where all of the members and former members of the Council were involved, I thought that just possibly I could sneak that backstory in, but there was also the possibility that I couldn't follow up on it, so the chapter had to be simplified.

Now I wish I had done proper foreshadowing on it.

Personally, I love to drop little foreshadowing clues, but there are so many characters in this manga! Add to it the fact that I'm doing not only this weekly manga but a monthly too, and my mind is getting pretty messed up by it all (heh)! Plus, I'm getting these impossible requests to do one-shots on top of all that!

And so, I've dropped a bunch of foreshadowing hints that I won't be able to include (stories I'm no longer scheduled to do), and from here on, there will be a bunch more (including red herrings), so you'll probably see a whole lot of plots I'm trying to hint at.

In any case, I'm still looking forward to clearing up a whole bunch more mysteries, so please look forward to that!

EMERGENCY REQUEST! EXPLAIN THE MYSTERIES OF F.T.!!



At a Magnolia ramen joint...

Lucy: Hi Everybody!

Mira: Okay, let's get straight to the questions!

Why did Mard Geer allow Silver in the Nine Demon Gates?



Lucy: It's true that he was a human to start with, and he even had demon slayer magic, which is magic specifically made to fight demons.

Mira: It was written about a little in the main story line, but I think it was Keyes who pushed for him to be in the group.

Lucy: He did mention that he knew Silver would betray him someday...

Mira: Maybe Mard Geer thought that having someone with demon slayer magic would prove how confident he was of his own abilities.

Lucy: He may also have been brought on as a deterrent to bad behavior among the Nine Demon Gates or the lower-level demons below them.

Mira: I imagine it was probably frightening for the Tartaros guild members to know that there was a demon slayer close at hand.

What does the 1/16 on Lummy's tie mean?



: Ah...so this question finally came.



: So it did. I thought nobody would bother to ask about it.

Continues on the left-hand page.

Continues from the left-hand page.

Lucy: I hear there are all sorts of explanations. Like there are sixteen Lummys or that she can only use 1/16th of her power...

Mira: But the real answer is so stupid, I don't even want to write it here.

Lucy: But we can't just ignore it, can we...?

Mira: Fine, but it will take a while to explain. Lummy is modeled after a member of Mashima-sensei's staff.



: Sigh...

Mira: And one day, she suddenly made a rather pointless announcement.

Lucy: Sigh...



"I AM 1/16TH RUSSIAN!
:(WHADDYA THINK OF THAT?)"

Lucy: Um... If 1/2 is half, and 1/4th is quarter, what is 1/16th ...???

Might as well just say she's fully Japanese.

Mira: Normally the story would just end with someone saying, "Really?" or, "Wow." But it was so sudden, and she put on such a, "What do you say to that?!" face! Still, it just slipped right on past the rest of the staff.



: You mean that Lummy's "slip-all" curse power was from that?



: Exactly! It came because the staff members let it slip by.

Lucy: The part about how she has a thing for hot guys too?

Mira: Of course!

Lucy: And that creepy "fa fa fa" laughter too?

Mira: All from that staff member.

Lucy: Come to think of it, she was a pretty impressive character!

Mira: And so, the real reason for the 1/16 tie was because she was 1/16th Russian.



: I kind of wish nobody had ever asked.

Mira: It wasn't just her. Kain Hikaru and Kinana were both modeled after staff members. And in a strange way, so was Gemini.

Lucy: Huh?!!

Mira: Their weird "piiri piiri" sound was taken from a member of the staff who, way back in grade school, remembered his whole school saying it at the time.

Lucy: I kind of wish nobody had ever asked.

Send to Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics

451 Park Ave. South 7th Floor, New York, NY 10016

The Fairy Tail Guild is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a postcard or at postcard size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! > Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!

FAIRY TAIL GUILD d'ART

It's an assembly of Fairy Tail members with Aseuka at the center!!



Tokyo, Miss Naka

Tochigi Prefecture, Riken Wakana



▲ There were a lot of people telling me how much they loved Wendy in Vol. 444!



Tokyo, Moe Furusho

▲ She's glaring... er... smiling at me, right?

Yamaguchi Prefecture, Hikaru Kaneshiro



▲ Sella is one of the prettiest of the demons, but she can be scary when angered!

Hokkaido, Omega



▲ Wow! Cuts! I love how round everybody is!

Fukuoka Prefecture, Hirokazu Sirogi Overseas gril



▲ This is the scene from Vol. 444 that you liked the best?!

Taiwan, Xian Yu-zhen



▲ What is the Underworld King's power anyway...?!



Osaka Prefecture, Shun Yanagisawa

Osaka, Musaki Hirano



▲ The Strauss family. Forever one big happy family!

Hyogo Prefecture, MEAGI



▲ How did you all feel about Aquarius' scene in Vol. 45P?

Chiba Prefecture, Haruka Inagami



▲ Thanks for drawing so many! They're all so cute!

Saitama Prefecture, Chiharu Hyama



▲ Everybody's a bee! And they're so amazingly cute!

Kagoshima Prefecture, Akari



▲ I think the composition of this one is really cute! Sella and Kyka are great!

Ishikawa Prefecture, Rabi



▲ Gladiators! I wonder where he is right now?

REJECTION CORNER



Hiroshima, Kodori Nakamoto

By sending in letters or postcards, you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code, and any other information you include to the artist as-is. Please keep that in mind.

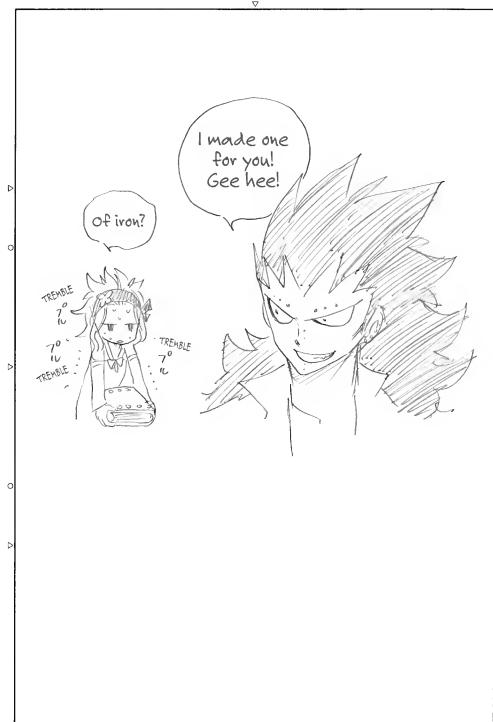
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

47



真島ヒロ



Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Page 13, Etherious

Those of you who bought early printings or e-books of Volume 45, or followed the story when as it is published weekly online, might have noticed that the spelling for Etherious used to be spelled Aetherious. The spelling with an 'A' was a mistake on my (the translator's) part. In a later chapter, it became obvious that Etherious is the more accurate spelling. We haven't come to that chapter yet in the graphic novels, so I don't want to spoil it for anyone, but the spelling was changed for a very good reason. I offer my apologies for the previous misspellings.

Page 59, Steel

Creating steel from iron isn't quite as easy as just adding some carbon. In reality, steel needs to be made by removing impurities through a number of different processes (open hearth furnace, the Bessemer process, or the basic oxygen furnace are three popular methods) and creating a consistent concentration of carbon (0.5% - 1.5%). Still, considering that Gajeel's iron is magic iron (and dragon magic at that) then we can probably assume there are few-to-no impurities. And considering the things Gajeel can do with the iron in his body, it's easy to imagine that he can manage to create a consistent carbon content throughout his own body.



Page 80, Zeref-kyô

As mentioned in the notes of Volume 26, there are a number of honorifics that are known to modern Japanese, but are not in common usage. One of the more uncommon, more polite honorifics is *-kyô*, which might be translated as "my lord."



FROM HIRO MASHIMA



I am completely hooked on the social game Fairy Tail Brave Saga. The modeling of the characters is so cute, and it's all so well done! I'm pretty sure that there will be more and more characters added, so I hope you all will be able to give it a try!!

Fairy Tail Brave Saga
Official Home Page
<https://www.taito.co.jp/fairytailbs>

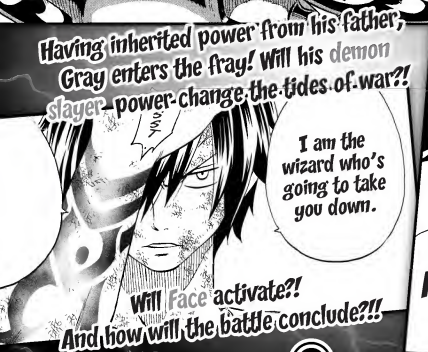


I will
slay you,
dragon!!

I recognize
you as an
enemy!

In a dragon-on-dragon
struggle, humans would just
be in the way!! The battle
shakes the skies!!

**WILL
ROAR
!!!**



Having inherited power from his father,
Gray enters the fray! Will his demon
slayer power change the tides of war??

I am the
wizard who's
going to take
you down.

Will Face activate??
And how will the battle conclude??

**RAGE
!!!**

FAIRY TAIL
フェアリーテイル

48



**THE
FIRE
DRAGON
KING**

Let's
do this,
Igneel
!!!!

You have
reawakened a
long-forgotten
sensation in
Mard Geer.

Enraged and
transfigured,
Mard Geer!
The battle
with the
Underworld
King will
rend the
earth!!

**NATSU
IS
FIRED
UP
!!!**

ATTACK on TITAN



**Winner
of a 2011
Kodansha Manga
Award**

Humanity has been decimated!

A century ago, the bizarre creatures known as Titans devoured most of the world's population, driving the remainder into a walled stronghold. Now, the appearance of an immense new Titan threatens the few humans left, and one restless boy decides to seize the chance to fight for his freedom, and the survival of his species!

KC
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COMICS**

DON'T MISS THE MOST ACCLAIMED ACTION MANGA OF 2013!

"Gripping doesn't begin to describe Vinland Saga. 5 stars."
—ICv2

"Deeply engrossing... If you have any interest at all in Vikings, the Medieval period, or pirates, this is not a series you want to miss."
—Anime News Network

"The art is gorgeous, a combination of beautiful cartooning and realistic backgrounds. Yukimura is also a master of pacing, both in frenetic battle scenes and charged emotional moments."
—Faith Erin Hicks, *Friends With Boys*

"For those who love Berserk, you'll love this too... Worth the long wait."
—A Case Suitable for Treatment

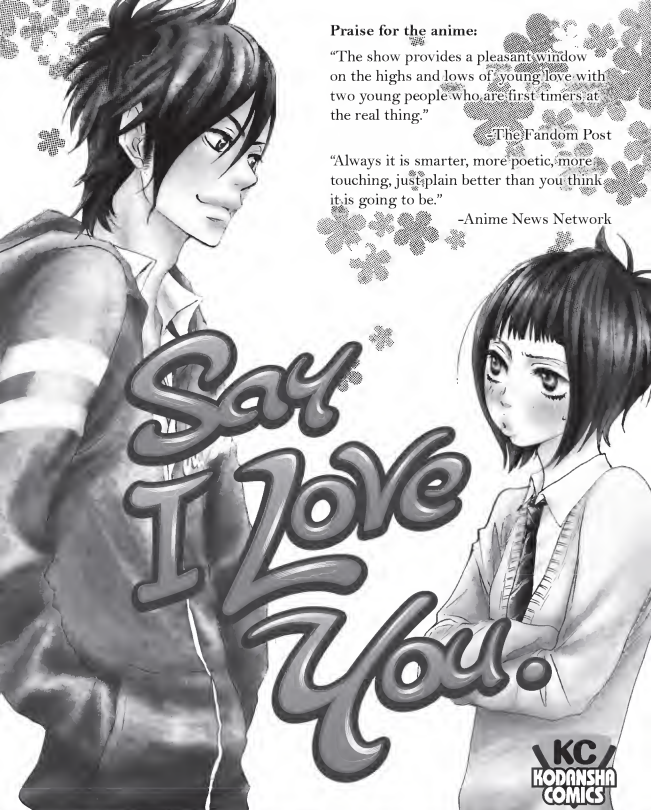
"It will be impossible to stop watching this story unfold."
—Japan Media Arts Awards jury

**KODANSHA
COMICS**

A VIKING EPIC FROM THE
AUTHOR OF "PLANETES"

VINLAND SAGA

AVAILABLE NOW IN HARDCOVER



Praise for the anime:

"The show provides a pleasant window on the highs and lows of young love with two young people who are first timers at the real thing."

-The Fandom Post

"Always it is smarter, more poetic, more touching, just plain better than you think it is going to be."

-Anime News Network

Say
I Love
You.

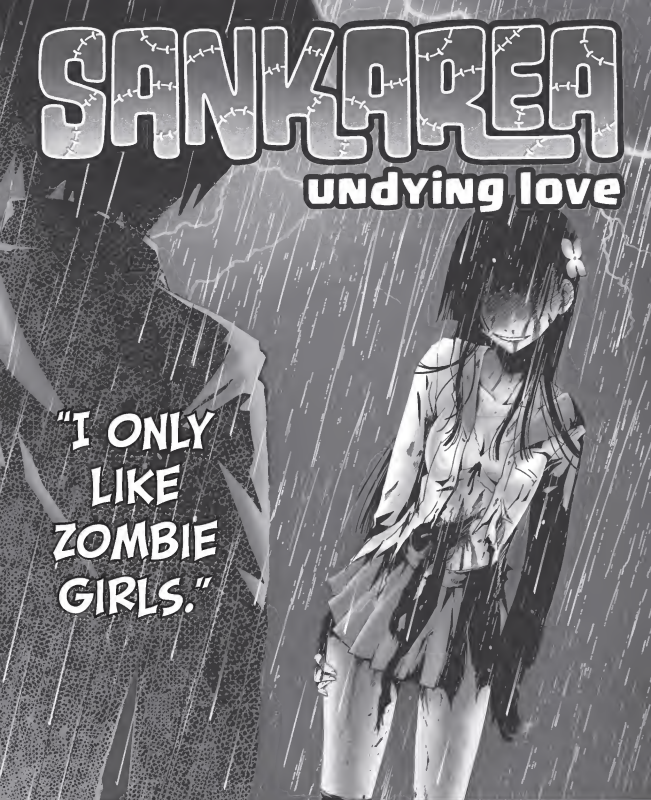
KC
KODANSHA
COMICS

Mei Tachibana has no friends — and says she doesn't need them!

But everything changes when she accidentally roundhouse kicks the most popular boy in school! However, Yamato Kurosawa isn't angry in the slightest — in fact, he thinks his ordinary life could use an unusual girl like Mei. But winning Mei's trust will be a tough task. How long will she refuse to say, "I love you"?

SANKAREA

UNDYING LOVE



**"I ONLY
LIKE
ZOMBIE
GIRLS."**

Chihiro has an unusual connection to zombie movies. He doesn't feel bad for the survivors – he wants to comfort the undead girls they slaughter! When his pet passes away, he brews a resurrection potion. He's discovered by local heiress Sanka Rea, and she serves as his first test subject!

"This series never fails to
put a smile on my face."

-Dramatic Reviews

PRAISE FOR THE ANIME!

"A very funny look at what happens when
two strange and strangely well-suited people
try to navigate the thorny path to true love
together."

-Anime News Network



OPPOSITES ATTRACT...MAYBE?

Haru Yoshida is feared as an unstable and violent "monster."
Mizutani Shizuku is a grade-obsessed student with no friends.
Fate brings these two together to form the most unlikely pair. Haru
firmly believes he's in love with Mizutani and she firmly believes
he's insane.

NO.6



A PERFECT LIFE IN A PERFECT CITY

For Shion, an elite student in the technologically sophisticated city No. 6, life is carefully choreographed. One fateful day, he takes a misstep, sheltering a fugitive his age from a typhoon. Helping this boy throws Shion's life down a path to discovering the appalling secrets behind the "perfection" of No. 6.

SHERLOCK BONES

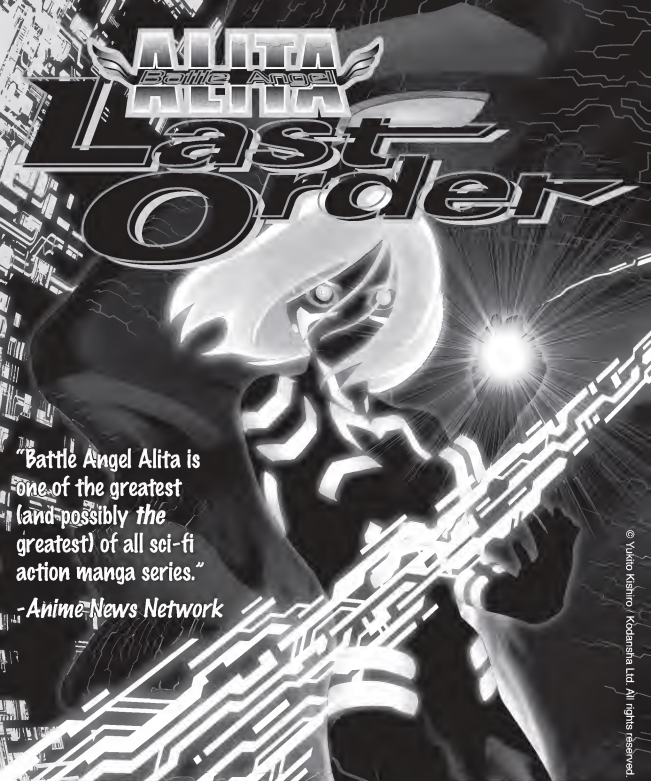
KC
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COMICS



DEDUCTIVE DOG DETECTIVE

When Takeru adopts a new pet, he's in for a surprise—the dog is none other than the reincarnation of Sherlock Holmes. With no one else able to communicate with Holmes, Takeru is roped into becoming Sherdog's assistant, John Watson. Using his sleuthing skills, Holmes uncovers clues to solve the trickiest crimes. 🐾





"Battle Angel Alita is
one of the greatest
(and possibly *the*
greatest) of all sci-fi
action manga series."

- *Anime-News Network*

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MARDOCK

マルドゥック・スクランブル

SCRAMBLE

**Created by
Tow Ubukata**



**Manga by
Yoshitoki Oima**

"I'd rather be dead"

Rune Balot was a lost girl with nothing to live for. A man named Shell took her in and cared for her...until he tried to murder her. Standing at the precipice of death Rune is saved by Dr. Easter, a private investigator, who uses an experimental procedure known as "Mardock Scramble 09."

The procedure grants Balot extraordinary abilities. Now, Rune must decide whether to use her new powers to help Dr. Easter bring Shell to justice, or if she even has the will to keep living a life that's been broken so badly.



Ages: 16+



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